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ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE OPENS IN ISLAMABAD

Iranian Foreign Minister Arrives

BK170144 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Some more delegation leaders have arrived in Islamabad to attend the Islamic foreign ministers conference. Iran Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh said on arrival in Islamabad last night that he hoped that the conference would help strengthen relations and cooperation among Islamic countries and that it would act as a strong organization to face the challenge posed by superpowers. He also expressed the hope the conference would suggest ways to help assist poor nations of the world and liberation movements so that they can be freed from exploitation and neocolonial yokes.

About Afghanistan, he said this will be the most important issue out of all the issues to be presented at the conference, and positive results will be achieved after considering various proposals.

When asked about economic sanctions against Iran by the European Economic Community, he said these nations should not side with the United States and should independently take a decision. However, if they imposed these sanctions then the Iranian people will break the sanctions with the help of the Islamic world and would not be pressured by such tactics.

Qotbzadeh Remarks on Arrival

BK170108 Hong Kong AFP in English 0102 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, 16 May (AFP)--Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh today appealed to the European Economic [Community] (EEC) to "assert their independence" and not follow the United States boycott of Iran. On the eve of the EEC meeting to discuss economic sanctions against Iran over the hostage issue, Mr Qotbzadeh, on arrival here for Saturday's Islamic foreign ministerial conference, urged the Nine "not to follow in the steps of U.S. imperialism and to assert their independence". But he said that if they decided on sanctions the threat would be "broken." The Islamic world backed Iran and would defy sanctions, the minister said. "The fate of the (U.S.) hostages will be determined by our parliament as soon as it convenes", he added.

Mr Qotbzadeh said that the most important questions for Iran at the Islamic conference were "American aggression--military, political and economic--against our country and the Soviet Union against Afghanistan. We should determine that the Almighty has put upon ourselves a mission for the liberation of mankind," he said.

Iran wanted to see the Islamic Conference "a strong organisation and non-aligned force facing equally, with determination, the two super-powers in the world". The minister said that the idea of an Islamic defense pact, put forward here earlier this week, was "good" but needed long study and discussion.

Afghan Rebels in Iran Delegation

BK190419 Hong Kong AFP in English 0340 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, 19 May (AFP)--After a dramatic last-minute invitation, Afghan resistance leaders were today poised to address the 40-nation Islamic conference here while envoys from the suspended Soviet-backed Kabul regime were reportedly outside Pakistan but trying to reach the conference.

The surprise admission of the Afghan leaders as part of the Iranian delegation late yesterday, which observers said stunned several pro-Kabul delegates, was rapidly followed by the report of the Kabul envoys' bid to come here. Conference spokesman Qasim Zahiri said, in reply to a question, that the charge d'affaires of the Afghan Embassy in Jiddah had sent a telegram announcing that an Afghan delegation would be attending the conference. He added: "We know nothing beyond that." The delegation had not turned up in Islamabad early today.

But observers here saw the cable as a continuation of the diplomatic offensive by the Soviet-backed Babrak Karmal regime to win back the seat taken from it by the conference in January.

Among speakers due to address the plenary session today was Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who said his delegation's initiative in including the Afghan leaders showed his country was prepared to "go all the way" with them.

The four working committees were due to continue producing resolutions, with the political committee expected to examine a bid to strengthen Islamic solidarity and cooperation. Within this framework were calls to remove the "superpower" struggle from the Indian Ocean region and its natural extensions and condemnation of attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Islamic states.

The solidarity pact also envisaged condemnation of "threats by the United States to launch armed aggression against some Islamic states, in particular in oil-producing states," and condemnation of superpower efforts "to set up military bases in Islamic states"--viewed as a direct reference to U.S. negotiations for military facilities in Somalia and Oman.

Another major point on the order paper was "American aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran"--tabled, according to informed sources, by Iran.

Saudi Minister Statement on Arrival

BK170146 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1700 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] The latest to arrive in Islamabad tonight [to attend the Islamic foreign ministers conference] are Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Price Sa'ud al-Faysal and Somali Foreign Minister Abdurrahman Jama Barre.

The Saudi Arabian foreign minister, talking to newsmen, said Afghanistan is the main subject that will be tackled by the Islamic foreign ministers conference. He said the conference will evaluate and review the progress made in the resolution on the subject adopted at the extraordinary session of the foreign ministers conference in January this year. He said his country fully (?supports) the glowing will of the Islamic countries. He said the conference would reach a decision that would lead to the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Replying to a question, he said the Saudi Arabian delegation has certain thoughts about a possible solution of the Afghanistan issue and these would be presented before the conference.

The Somalia foreign minister said his country still insisted that Soviet troops must withdraw from Afghanistan.

Iraqi Minister Remarks

JN161426 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, 16 May--Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived here today to head the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the 11th Islamic foreign ministers conference which will begin in Islamabad tomorrow, Saturday.

Hamid 'Alwan said that the conference is of great importance not only to the Islamic countries but to the entire world as well. The minister expressed hope that the participating countries will shoulder their responsibilities thoroughly, particularly at the current stage through which the world is passing.

Further Delegations Arrive; Statements

BK161042 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] More delegates from a number of Muslim countries arrived in Islamabad today to take part in the Islamic foreign ministers conference opening in the federal capital tomorrow. Turkish Foreign Minister Hayrettin Erkmen said on arrival that he hoped the conference would take positive steps to solve the issues before it and the chairmanship of Pakistan will greatly contribute to the success of its deliberations.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Hassen Belkhodja said the Afghan situation makes it incumbent on Muslim countries to take a very clear position on the issue and pursued (?its) views taken at the last meeting of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in January in Islamabad.

Guinea's Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure hoped that the conference would find a common ground to fight against the common enemies of Islam and for solving the problems facing the Muslim countries. Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmaja, who also arrived in Islamabad today, said his country was open to all kinds of ideas for solution of the Afghan issue in the best interest of the Afghan people.

Mauritanian Justice Minister Yedali Ould Sheikh, who would represent his country at the conference, said the need of the hour was Muslim unity and increased cooperation among them in the scientific and other fields. He said he had brought a message from the Mauritanian president for President Mohammad Ziaul Haq suggesting stronger ties of cooperation between the two brotherly countries.

Deputy Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (Abdul Ali Abdul) also arrived in Islamabad today to attend the conference.

Further Report on Arrivals

BK171048 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Most of the foreign ministers and heads of delegations from 40 Muslim countries have now arrived in Islamabad to attend the [Islamic foreign ministers] conference. The leader of the Lebanese delegation and the ministers of state for foreign affairs from Jordan, UAE and Qatar arrived in Islamabad this morning.

Agha Shahi Preliminary Remarks

BK161628 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Foreign Affairs Adviser Agha Shahi has said that the senior officials [of the Islamic countries] have ratified the 101-point agenda of the Islamic foreign ministers conference which will be studied by four committees on political, economic, social and cultural issues.

Talking to newsmen in Islamabad today he said that the conference is being held under an extremely delicate and complicated situation. He said that the situation in the Middle East has been deteriorating and that Israel's expansionist policy has made the situation more serious, thus endangering peace.

On Afghanistan he said that the situaion there has further worsened following the induction of additional Soviet troops there.

Referring to Iran Agha Shahi said that the situation has further deteriorated because of the U.S. attempt to rescue the hostages with the help of troops in Tehran. He added that the big powers have increased their naval strength in the Gulf to protect their vital interests.

Agha Shahi said that the conference will study the ways to further strengthen the security of the Islamic countries. Replying to a question, Agha Shahi said that it is possible for the conference to study the formulation of a proposal for a political solution of the Afghanistan crisis. Consultations in this regard are being held, he said. He added that if any proposal in this regard is accepted, a foreign minister level committee might be formed to explore the possibilities of contacting the concerned countries.

Replying to another question, the foreign affairs adviser said that the U.S. operation to rescue the American hostages in Tehran has made it difficult for the Islamic Conference to take any constructive initiative. Still, the foreign ministers attending the conference will meet the Iranian foreign minister and will hold talks with him on ways to reduce tension. Replying to another question he said that Pakistan will support any proposal moved at the conference to declare the Gulf area a zone of peace.

Haq Inaugural Address

BK171454 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1110 GMT 17 May 80

[Address by Pakistan President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq at 17 May inaugural session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad--live]

[Text] Mr Chairman, Honorable Mr Boucetta; secretary general of the Islamic Conference, Honorable Mr Habib Chatti; respected foreign ministers; learned representatives; ladies and gentlemen; peace be with you.

It is a matter of great honor for me and my country that the 11th regular session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference is taking place in Pakistan. We were bestowed a similar honor 4 months ago when the extraordinary session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference was held in the capital of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Both these conferences are in line with the wishes of our people and truly reflect our basic ideology.

These events are also of special significance and a matter of pride because they are taking place at a time of the advent of the 15th Islamic century. We are grateful to the Islamic Conference for extending to us this honor, indebted to Allah and pray that this conference be crowned with success. Peace be with you.

Our love for Islam and friendship with Islamic states is not a result of the latest events. It is rooted in our beliefs and faith. This was reflected not only after the establishment of Pakistan but also during the Pakistan movement. I remember, about 5 years prior to the birth of Pakistan, the father of the nation, Qaide Azam Mohammed 'Ali Jinnah, on the occasion of Idul Fitr festival, stated: At a time when we are involved in the struggle for freedom, we should not forget our brethren who hold similar aspirations in other parts of the world.

Let us pray for their victory and also for those Muslim countries which are, with the Grace of God, sovereign and dignified. May Allah bestow his (?strength and blessings) in their efforts to preserve their freedom and independence. These were the words of the qaide azam.

The basic reason for our maintaining close relations in the past and present era with the Islamic countries is that Muslims the world over, wherever they may be living, whatever be their dress or language spoken, are all members of one community. They share sorrows and happiness, same raison d'etre, and, if any one of them scores a victory, then the whole Islamic world should participate in the joy. This is why we have always stood by with our Muslim brothers in happiness and sorrow no matter where they live--in some far off place in Africa or an island in the Middle East. We are with them in their struggle against racism or imperialist pressure.

We participate in the joys of the African states who have attained independence during the past few years and express our support and (?solidarity) with those who are struggling against all forms of domination. The freedom and independence of African Muslims has been a great contribution to the power and prestige of the Islamic world. I am confident that these African brothers will join other Islamic states in playing a greater role for the cause of peace and the prosperity of the human fraternity.

Today the Islamic world is facing a new crisis. This crisis is not confined to any one front or direction. There are several aspects and angles to this. On the one hand, it is faced with an ideological challenge while on the other, it is being made the target of economic exploitation. At times hurdles are placed in the path of Islamic unity and solidarity while in other places new dangers are created to the freedom and independence of the Islamic countries.

Besides [words indistinct] is still under foreign occupation. Atrocities are committed on Arab lands and the Palestine freedom fighters are denied their rights. Iran faces new threats constantly and foreign troops are in Afghanistan in great numbers. I am confident that this foreign ministers' meeting will review these issues and its representatives will try to find their solution on the basis of their experience and prudence.

It is not possible for me in this brief speech to express my view on all the new and old ideological and political issues. Hence, I would like to draw your attention basically to only a few important problems.

First of all, I would like to discuss the Afghanistan issue, which has become the center of world attention. The previous foreign ministers conference considered this issue and some demands in the form of a resolution were made to improve the situation. It is a matter of great regret and pain that despite the call made by a large majority of the UN General Assembly and the unanimous demand of the Islamic foreign ministers conference there has been no (?basic) change in the situation in Afghanistan. Foreign troops are still there in large numbers. The people there are still denied the right to establish a government of their choice and lead a life according to their wishes. Men, women and children are still forced to leave their homes in view of the unbearable conditions there. Will such a situation remain in the unforeseeable period? Will the old, young and (?destitute) people continue to be homeless there? Is it not their birthright to live in respect and freedom in their own homeland? And, is it not the duty of the whole world Islamic fraternity to exert their full efforts to return this right to them and pledge that they will not remain silent until the self-respecting and brave people of Afghanistan achieve their rights?

I will also request that this conference, along with deliberations on this issue, take into consideration the setting up of such a permanent committee whose sole task will be to keep the events in Afghanistan constantly in view, study them in detail and try to implement the decisions of this conference on Afghanistan.

Beside this permanent committee, I expect this conference to also review the Afghanistan issue very seriously in the light of events and experiences of the past 4 months, and also turn their thoughts and intelligence on how to solve the Afghan issue immediately and in a peaceful manner so that the people there can live in freedom, respect and dignity. This appeal on my part is not only backed by the principles of peaceful coexistence, which are enshrined in the charter of the United Nations, but also our centuries old religious and cultural ties with Afghanistan which, naturally, cause us concern with regard to the condition of our Afghan brethren.

On this occasion I would like to reiterate Pakistan's stance that we will support every international effort to have Soviet troops pull out of Afghanistan and the country again become an independent, nonaligned Islamic state.

Pakistan is also keenly interested in the Afghanistan issue, as Afghan citizens are forced to take shelter on our soil due to the unbearable conditions there. The number of these refugees has passed the 750,000 mark and include the old, women and children. It should be asked: Why are thousands of people forced to leave their hearth and homes? Why do these women and children flee their homes and take shelter under open skies in conditions of winter and summer? We all know that no one leaves his household without cause. The plight of these unfortunate refugees is the result of foreign troops occupation of their homeland; their life, honor and dignity is unsafe there.

We are extending them basic livelihood needs on humanitarian grounds and in the Islamic spirit and, God willing, will continue to do so. However, our resources are limited. I am pleased that some international organizations and states recently have extended a helping hand to us in this effort for which, I on behalf of myself and the Pakistan Government, thank them.

The second issue is related to the Middle East, where Israel has been consistently violating the principles of morality, justice and universally accepted international norms and laws. Israel's so-called interest in peace efforts is motivated by its aim to continue its domination over occupied Arab land.

The Pakistan Government's firm stand on the issue is that the sovereignty of the Palestinian people should be sincerely recognized, all Arab territories including Jerusalem should be vacated, and the Palestinian people granted their basic rights in order to enable them to establish their independent and sovereign state.

We firmly believe that no lasting peace can be established in the Middle East until these basic requirements are met. Israel continues its hold over Arab territories, completely ignoring world opinion, establishing Jewish settlements on the captured land, and continues to launch aggression against Lebanon. As our conference begins, Israel has (?given) a new challenge to the Islamic world through its efforts to transform Jerusalem into its permanent territory. The Israeli action is completely against the desires and expectations of the world fraternity which have been expressed in UN resolutions. These resolutions declare all these steps to be contrary to international law and null and void from any respect.

The Jerusalem committee has taken an absolutely correct and timely decision by demanding the convening of the UN Security Council meeting in order to take effective steps against the fresh provocative action by Israel, which poses a serious danger to world peace and security. This conference will have to deliberate on this important and serious issue, which will help in finding a just solution to it.

Here, I would like to make it clear that according to our belief and way of thinking, the Middle East crisis is not only a problem of the Arab countries, the situation in Afghanistan is not a cause of concern only for its neighbors, and the difficulties of Iran are not to be (?faced) by Iran alone, but are matters of attention and thought for the entire Islamic world whether related to any country of Africa and any Asian region. If we do not take a united stand today in denouncing the aggression against a Muslim country, then tomorrow another of us might have to face the difficulty faced by one of our brothers.

Respected representatives, the success of the Islamic Revolution in Iran is of considerable significance to the Islamic world. The Iranian people are making great efforts to establish a new society. They have the right to continue their mission without any external intervention or pressure. We believe that the Iranian people want to (?project) their struggle in international forums as a nonaligned, Islamic revolution and we support their great effort. We are very concerned about threats to use force and intimidate Iran. The recent U.S. Government decision to rescue the hostages militarily was inappropriate and regrettable. We unhesitatingly denounced the abortive operation immediately after it was reported and extended support to our Iranian brothers. We believe that the hostage issue can only be solved by mutual understanding and peaceful talks, not by force or intimidation.

There are several others issues to which I would like to draw your attention. There is a deplorable global trend in which the big powers, instead of giving opportunity to small nations to solve the problems of their region by themselves, are continuously intervening in their affairs. This a dangerous and regrettable trend. External powers cannot be allowed to impose their ideologies upon other regions without the consent of that region's people. This is why, while we strongly oppose the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, we also categorically criticize the U.S. policy under which it has stationed its naval forces around the Iranian coast in order to intimidate Iran. This conference will have to deliberate on this dangerous attitude of the big powers in order to reduce the growing tension in the region by pursuing various steps, and to remove the dangers threatening the region and world peace.

Another important issue, which has been longstanding, is that of Jammu and Kashmir. The Kashmir people are still denied their right to self-determination. The solution of this issue will not only improve Pakistan-Indian relations, but will contribute to peace and stability in the region. We want to solve this issue according to the Simla Agreement and the UN resolutions.

Respected representatives, I am confident that you will review all the problems facing the Islamic world and after detailed discussions in the next few days reach beneficial results. However, if you allow me, I would like to submit a few proposals before you.

The first point concerns world Islamic unity and solidarity. You know better than I the great emphasis laid on the unity of the Islamic community in the Holy Koran. Today, with God's blessings, the majority of the Muslim states are free. They are spread over different parts of the world.

However their common values and religion which have two permanent features--the holy Koran and the examples set forth by the prophet--are with us. We should collectively try to make these features the basis of our unity and endeavor to insure that if there is dissent or friction among two members of the Islamic community, it will resolved in a satisfactory manner. This is the order of our faith.

Also important is the defense and protection of the Islamic community. One way to fulfill this is through unity and solidarity. Further efforts, however, are needed for this. I had submitted a proposal for a collective defense in the previous conference and I am pleased that several members liked it and included it in the agenda of the present conference.

When submitting the proposal, I did not aim to place the forces of all the Islamic states under one supreme commander, nor did I mean that we should pool our forces against any country. Absolutelynot. My only aim was that we view the danger facing the security of all Islamic states as one community, one single individual, and create sameness in our view and position and utilize our mutual resources-- manpower, mineral resources, agriculture, industry and so on--for mutual benefit and progress. God has bestowed his blessings on Muslims in so many different ways that if they unite and use them for this great cause, then no one can cast an evil eye on them.

Finally, I would like to propose that we make efforts to protect our Islamic heritage and communal identity. A [words indistinct] of the resurgence of Islam has been created in the Islamic world today. This is a happy and encouraging event. The feeling is growing among the people of different countries that we have to renew our Islamic values and present our thoughts and views in Islamic hues. Such an effort has been made by an international Islamic organization in the form of a universal Islamic declaration [last three words rendered in English]. This declaration sheds useful light on the problems faced by Muslims today. A copy of this declaration has been placed near your seat and I hope you will benefit from this.

Respected gentlemen, actually, the resurgence of Islam and the sense of Islamic values are the source of our actions. You might have seen it expressed by the spirit and energy of our people and highlighted by the overwhelming reception accorded to you by the people of Rawalpindi and Islamabad. This Islamic awareness also works in the feeling of brotherhood under which we, on the one hand, provide our distressed Afghan brothers with necessities of life, while on the other hand, we make efforts to grant the displaced Palestinian brothers their rights. We will continue our efforts according to our ability and resources until the Palestinian people succeed in achieving a separate homeland and we offer a prayer of thanks with them at the Al Aqsa mosque.

Respected representatives, the feeling of friendship and brotherhood which I am expressing and my pledge to fulfill the demands of the Islamic brotherhood are not my personal feelings or only my personal pledge, rather, this is the voice of the hearts of the 80 million people of Pakistan; people who have a deep sense of integrity and love for their Muslim brothers. This conference is not only a place to express the desires of our people, but also consider it to be a useful vehicle to fulfill their desires. I firmly believe that you, during your deliberations in the next few days, and by your conclusions, will contribute to the unity and stability of the Islamic community, by which its spiritual resurgence strengthens.

Lately, by the grace of God, there has been an extraordinary spirit and energy among the Muslims of the world. I hope and pray that the Islamic conference will provide them with guidance and direction by which they can become [words indistinct]. May God make your efforts a success, amen. Long live Pakistan, long live Islamic unity.

Agha Shahi Opening Address

BK180926 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 18 May 80

[Excerpts] Foreign Affairs Adviser Agha Shahi has appealed for the appropriate use of the capabilities and power of Islam for the betterment of the people living in the Islamic world. Addressing the 11th Islamic foreign ministers conference following his election as chairman, he said that the Islamic conference represents the political voice of the Islamic fraternity.

He noted the issues facing the conference: Israeli aggression, hegemonism and occupation of Arab land; the continued Soviet military presence in Afghanistan; the U.S. violation of Iran's territorial integrity and threats of economic sanctions against it; the Jerusalem issue; superpower rivalry in the Persian Gulf; the problem of Muslim minorities in non-Muslim countries; Jammu and Kashmir; Cyprus; and the world economic order, which discriminates against the Islamic countries.

He said the basic points in the Middle East issue are the realization of inalienable rights of the Palestinians to establish their own state in their homeland, restoration of Jerusalem to the Arabs and Muslim supremacy there, and demolition of Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab lands.

On Afghanistan, he said a political line of action should be sought to continue focusing attention on the Afghan problem and to find a solution to this crisis. He said this objective could be achieved if the conference appoints a committee authorized to find a (?comprehensive) solution.

Expressing Pakistan's solidarity with Iran in this time of crisis, Mr Agha Shahi stated that the conference should demand withdrawal of all economic sanctions against Iran and an end to threats of use of force against it. He said that naval forces of all big powers should withdraw from the Iranian region. The Islamic world, he stated, has become the focus of attention of the two big powers. The oil resources of the Persian Gulf are a treasure which both powers want to acquire. He said Pakistan is willing to extend full cooperation to any proposal by the Persian Gulf states which can remove the big power presence and rivalry from the Persian Gulf.

On Kashmir, Mr Agha Shahi stated that a just and (?lasting) solution to this issue will greatly serve the cause of peace and stability in the region. He reiterated that Pakistan is firmly committed to the spirit of the Simla Agreement and the UN resolutions related to solving this dispute.

Referring to President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq's proposal on collective security of the Islamic world, he said after positive reaction to the proposal by the Islamic foreign ministers conference last January, Pakistan has now put forward a proposal to concentrate primarily on Islamic solidarity. It is, therefore, appropriate to focus attention on aspects on which there are prospects for agreements: for example, pooling expertise and training resources and undertaking joint projects.

On the trend to acquire nuclear military capability in various parts of the world, Mr Agha Shahi said the transfer of nuclear equipment from some nuclear nations to nonnuclear nations is causing concern in the Islamic world because this is being done in disregard of the objective of stopping nuclear weapons proliferation and on the basis of extreme discrimination. He said the conference should take a united and collective stand on the forthcoming UN debate on world economic relations.

Pakistan Proposal to Conference

BK170343 Karachi Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi has said Pakistan is proposing to the Islamic foreign ministers conference the creation or the recognition of a region of peace in the Middle East comprising the Arab and adjoining Muslim countries. He said this in an interview with the newly-launched Muslim international news features alliance on the eve of the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

He said this will include the Gulf and the oil-producing states. The idea is to work for and achieve international recogntion for this region of peace so that any country of this region does not become a theater of big power rivalry. The superpowers should not find it possible to interfere with or exploit these countries on the pretext of the security of the oil supplies to the West or the Far East. This proposal and other related suggestions have already been circulated by Pakistan through its special envoys to member countries of the Islamic Secretariat.

He expressed the confidence that the conference, beginning this afternoon, will make a historic contribution to consolidating Islamic unity. He said he is sure that the foreign ministers will demonstrate a vibrant and united approach to the vital interests of the Muslim world and will pave the way for the speedy fulfillment of the goals of the Islamic community and enable it to perform an (?important) role in mankind's struggle for peace and prosperity.

Jerusalem Committee Proposals

BK171046 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The Jerusalem committee [of the Islamic Conference] met in Islamabad this morning with Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boucetta in the chair. The committee considered in detail the Israeli plan to extend its full sovereignty to the city of Jerusalem (?declaring it the Israeli) capital.

An official spokesman of the Islamic Conference briefing newsmen this afternoon said the Jerusalem committee considered this Israeli decision as a challenge to the entire Islamic world. The Israeli action, he said, was a violation of the resolutions of the UN, the OAU and the Islamic foreign ministers conference. The spokesman said the PLO representative has submitted a draft resolution on the subject, which will be discussed by the political committee and later submitted to the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

Further Report on Jerusalem Committee

BK171056 Hong Kong AFP in English 1052 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, 17 May (AFP)--The Islamic Conference's Jerusalem ("Al Quds") committee today called for an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council to debate the decision of Israeli parliament to annex once and for all the Arab-inhabited old quarter of Jerusalem.

The committee, which met this morning ahead of the opening of the 11th Islamic conference, was recommending that conference delegates press for the meeting in the name of all Moslem countries, conference spokesman Qasim Zahiri said. Other measures "to save Jerusalem", including the breaking off of diplomatic relations with any state that transferred its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, would be taken by the conference, he added.

Peninsular Organization Statement to Conference

JN181928 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 May 80

["Text" of statement dated 17 May 1980 from the Islamic Revolution Organization in the Arabian Peninsula to the Islamic foreign ministers conference meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan]

[Text] In the name of God, supporter of the oppressed and smasher of the oppressors. Esteemed ministers of the Islamic states, Islamabad, Pakistan: May the peace and blessings of God be upon you.

The meeting of the representatives of all the Islamic states is a great meeting over which all our Islamic masses and peoples should have rejoiced and in which they should have showed interest. But on the contrary, our peoples show displeasure and disgust at such conferences due to two reasons:

1. Most members of such conferences do not represent the peoples, but the authorities which dominate our peoples unjustly and impose unjust laws on them. Our people in the Arabian Peninsula reject the Saudi regime's foreign minister as a representative to your conference. He is the representative of a regime rejected by the people as was evident in the glorious Muharram uprising in Mecca and the heroic eastern region.

2. These conferences have not achieved and will not achieve any fruitful results for peoples. They are mere manifestations of information and deceit of peoples. We wish that this conference of yours will be different from the other conferences by condemning the terrorism practiced by the tyrant rulers against the Islamic peoples; by expelling the representatives who want to impose themselves on their peoples, such as the Saudi foreign minister; and by paying attention to the real problems from which the Islamic nation is suffering. Most prominent among these problems is the U.S. aggression against the nation's dignity and rights.

If your conference achieves these matters, it will then enjoy the support of all our masses and peoples, otherwise, our stand toward it is known in advance. We pray that God may grant glory and dignity to Muslims. We also ask him to humiliate all agents and traders in Islam.

[Signed] The Islamic Revolution Organization in the Arabian Peninsula. 3 Rajab 1400 Hegira [17 May 1980]

17 May Open Session

BK171613 Hong Kong AFP in English 1606 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, 17 May (AFP)--The first open session of the 11th Islamic foreign ministers conference ended here this evening after a three hours. The foreign ministers will meet for a plenary session tomorrow, but today already had informal talks on the final report by officials on the agenda to be discussed after the inaugural session.

The session unanimously elected Pakistan's presidential adviser for foreign affairs, Agha Shahi, as chairman of the conference. The leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation, Abdul Mohsen Abu Meizer, was elected first vice-chairman while Gambian Foreign Minister Lamin K. Jabang was chosen as second vice-chairman.

On a unanimous vote, the leader of the Senegalese delegation, Moustapha Niasse, was elected chairman of the drafting committee of the conference while Moroccan Foreign Minister Mohammed Boucetta was elected rapporteur general of the conference.

18 May Plenary Session

BK180231 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Secretary General of the Islamic Secretariat Habib Chatti, in his report to the plenary session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad today, said that the ideal solution of the Afghan problem lies in the total and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops, repatriation of refugees to their homeland and the grant of the right of self-determination to the Afghans to elect their own government. He said this is the only solution acceptable to the Secretariat of the Islamic Conference.

The main points of his report were given out by the official spokesman of the conference while briefing newsmen this afternoon. The secretary general, in his report, dealt with the statement by Soviet President Brezhnev made on 27 February expressing the readiness of the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan when foreign intervention ended in the affairs of Afghanistan and on the condition that the United States and the neighboring countries of Afghanistan guarantee this. Habib Chatti was of the view that the neutralization of Afghanistan can only come about through the determination and will of the Afghan people themselves. With regard to the Soviet accusation of interference from the neighboring states, particularly Pakistan, the secretary general in his report said there is no truth in the accusation that Pakistan interferes in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The Pakistan Government has denied this accusation several times.

The report of the secretary general also referred to the influx of hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees into Pakistan and said that Pakistan was offering humanitarian services to them despite its limited resources. The secretary general, in his report, felt that the Pakistan proposal for the formation of a ministerial committee to follow up the Afghan problem could facilitate finding a solution of the issue. This proposal will be discussed by the Islamic foreign ministers conference. The secretary general called on the Islamic states to stand firm and foster solidarity in this moment of crisis. He said the Organization of the Islamic Conference also calls for the removal of the areas of influence of the two superpowers of the East and the West.

Asked if the conference will come up with practical action against the U.S. action in Iran, the chairman of the political committee, Mr Yunus of Pakistan, told newsmen that an item on Iran had been included unanimously in the agenda. They are now in the process of collecting resolutions and proposals offered by various delegations. In reply to another question he said the report of the secretary general had become a document of the conference and its parts concerning political issues will come up before the political committee when relevant items are taken up.

The official spokesman's attention was drawn by newsmen to the leaders of the Afghan liberation alliance attending the plenary session this afternoon as members of the Iranian delegation. The spokesman said as far as the political committee was concerned he was not aware of it.

However, a Pakistani spokesman, when contacted later in the evening, explained that the Afghan mojahedin representatives did attend the plenary session today. He said it is the right of the Iranian authorities to include anyone in their delegation. Iranian Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh is understood to have told the plenary session that the inclusion of the representatives of Afghan mojahedin in the Iranian delegation means that Iran was going all the way with them.

Radio Pakistan's diplomatic representative says the 11th Islamic foreign ministers conference has got off to a very good start. The indications are that the conference would maintain consensus and demonstrate complete solidarity among the Muslim states.

Briefing newsmen about today's proceedings the official spokesman of the conference told newsmen tonight that after adopting the 102-item agenda, the plenary closed door session was addressed by the foreign ministers of Bangladesh, Tunisia and Indonesia; the deputy foreign minister of Syria and the secretary general of the Rabta-ye 'Alam-e Islami. Giving details of the proceedings of various committees, the spokesman said the political committee took up the problem of the Middle East, which include the question of Palestine and Jerusalem, as the crux of the world problem in general and the issue of normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel and the repeated Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon.

The economic committee approved a draft resolution by Saudi Arabia to increase the capital of the Islamic Development Bank from 1,000 million Islamic dinars to 1,500 million Islamic dinars. The bank has so far provided 1,300 million dollars to the member states.

The cultural committee considered a number of items including that of relating to the strengthening of the Istanbul center of research in Islamic history and culture. It also considered the establishment of an organization of Red Crescent as proposed by Libya. The cultural committee also studied projects for two Islamic universities that are being established, one each in Niger and Uganda sponsored by the Islamic Conference.

The administrative and financial committee, among other things, discussed and approved the budget of the Organization of the Islamic Conference for the next year.

Further Details

BK181131 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The Islamic foreign ministers conference has decided to include on its agenda the Pakistan proposal to consider ways and means of guaranteeing the (?collective) security of the Muslim states. The proposal was made by President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in his inaugural address at the conference yesterday and later explained by adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi in his speech after his election as chairman. This was stated by official spokesman of the conference Qasim Zahiri while briefing the newsmen after the first plenary closed-door meeting of the foreign ministers in Islamabad this afternoon. He said this item will be considered by the political committee and then come up before the plenary session.

The spokesman said that this morning the plenary session began under the chairmanship of Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi. The heads of delegations met yesterday in an informal session. He said at today's meeting the head of the steering committee submitted the report on the meeting of the senior officials about the draft agenda. The plenary session approved the report. Chairman of the conference Agha Shahi submitted the agenda item by item which was unanimously approved by the foreign ministers. This was followed by the reading out of the report by Secretary General Habib Chatti. The report comprises a comprehensive program of all the issues before the Islamic world. The secretary general in his report emphasized the important issues, including Palestine, Jerusalem, Afghanistan and Iran.

The spokesman said the plenary session constituted four committees. They are: the political and information committee, the economic and social committee for cultural affairs and the committee for administrative and financial affairs. These committees will start their work this afternoon simultaneously with the plenary session. The official spokesman said that before the plenary adjourned its morning session, head of delegation from the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus Rauf Denktas addressed the foreign ministers.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Address

BK181546 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja has said in Islamabad that Indonesia praises highly the success of the Iranian people's revolution in opening the way for the establishment of a society in that country that accords with the Iranian people's aspirations and desires. However, Foreign Minister Mochtar also expressed his concern over the developments in Iran resulting from the U.S.-Iranian conflict. He called on the two countries to exercise self-restraint and not to take actions which could worsen the already tense situation. Foreign Minister Mochtar stated this tonight in a speech to the ninth [as heard] Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad.

Mochtar Kusumaatmadja also said that the Indonesian people continue to follow the developments in Afghanistan and the Middle East with concern. He said the Indonesian Government continues to demand the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan to enable the Afghan people to determine their own destiny free from outside interference. He called on countries attending the conference to take new initiatives to solve the Afghan crisis.

Touching on the Arab-Israeli conflict, Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja accused Israel of being [words indistinct] and arrogant and opposed efforts by Islamic countries trying to liberate Jerusalem and other Arab territories still occupied by Israel. He also reaffirmed Indonesia's support for the Arab people's struggle.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Address

BK190609 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] At the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad, Bangladesh has reiterated its special proposal for setting up a ministerial standing committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to present a common position in dealing with matters of special significance to the Muslim countries.

Addressing the plenary session of the conference yesterday afternoon, Foreign Minister Prof Mohammed Shamsul Haq said the setting up of such a high level standing committee will provide the Islamic countries with a much-needed institutional framework to cope with the problems and crises arising from time to time. It will also realize the central objective of the Organization of the Islamic conference which is to strengthen unity and solidarity among the Islamic countries and forge them as one community.

The foreign minister said the Islamic countries, because of their strategic position, are right at the center of the gathering storm. The unresolved problems in the Middle East, the continued armed conflict and presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan and the growing crisis in U.S.-Iran relations contain all the elements of a highly explosive situation. In the hour of grave peril, the confernce has a great responsibility to perform, he added.

The foreign minister reiterated Bangladesh's complete solidarity with the Arabs and the Palestinians and its support to them in their struggle against Israeli aggression. He said a just and lasting peace in the region can be secured only through complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories including the holy city of Jerusalem and the restoration of the rights of the Palestinians to have a state of their own.

The foreign minister said the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan is a violation of the fundamental principles of the UN Charter and the nonaligned movement. He demanded immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in the interest of peace and stability in the region.

Referring to the Iran-U.S. relations, the foreign minister insisted Bangladesh wants a peaceful and honorable settlement of the problem. He proposed the setting up of a contact group to consult the countries concerned and other countries whose good offices are likely to be helpful in resolving the problem.

The foreign minister also called for the resumption of intercommunal talks to promote peaceful settlement of the Cyprus problem. Referring to Africa, the foreign minister reiterated Bangladesh's full support to the brave people in the continent in their struggle for freedom and justice. He said he believed the remaining vestiges of colonialism and racial discrimination in the region will disappear in the near future.

The foreign minister called for greater unity among the Islamic countries to transform them into a self-reliant community through the development and sharing of their resources and proposed a six-point suggestion to achieve the goal. The Bangladesh proposal for a self-reliant Islamic economic community includes hastening the economic development of the member countries through joint ventures, diversification of investment in Islamic countries with priorities on agricultural development to ensure food security and creation of a special fund to assist the members in implementing their development strategy.

Professor Haq said creation of an Islamic international banking system to coordinate and expand the credit facilities within the proposed Islamic community will also help to achieve the objective. The Bangladesh proposal also includes the development of training facilities to technical and professional personnel to make the Islamic community self-reliant and development and equalization of educational opportunities to promote cultural cohesion and unity within the Islamic world.

The Bangladesh foreign minister also put forward before the 40-nation conference a special proposal for holding of sports and games with a view to promoting better understanding and solidarity among the Islamic countries.

Malaysian Minister on Afghanistan

BK190433 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen has said the Soviet troops must withdraw from Afghanistan and the people of that country be allowed to determine their own future free from outside interference. In an interview with Radio Pakistan he said Afghanistan must be a nonaligned, neutral and sovereign independent state. He commended the humanitarian help being given by Pakistan to these helpless refugees despite its limited resources.

INDIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN KABUL

Kabul Arrival; Meets Dost

LD161524 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost received Indian Deputy Foreign Minister Sathe in his office this morning and talked about matters of interest. The Indian deputy foreign minister arrived in Kabul this morning to talk about matters of mutual interest to the two countries and in continuation of talks concerning the situation in the region. He was welcomed at Kabul international airport by 'Abdol Hadi Mokammel, deputy foreign minister responsible for political matters, a number of high ranking officials of the ministry and the Indian ambassador to Kabul, Dr Jaskaran Singh Teja, as well as by a number of the members of the Indian Embassy.

According to another report, after his arrival, Mr Sathe met Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abdol Hadi Mokammel during a courtesy call in his office.

Received by Karmal

LD181508 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The Information Department of the Foreign Ministry reports that Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, received this morning at 1000 Indian Deputy Foreign Minister R.D. Sathe at the Revolutionary Council headquarters for a meeting. The minister of education and training, Dr Anahita Ratebzad, met Indian Deputy Foreign Minister R.D. Sathe at her office. Subjects of interest were discussed in this meeting.

Meets With Keshtmand

LD171532 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The Foreign Ministry Information Department reports that Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, vice chairman of the Revolutionary Council, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, received Indian Deputy Foreign Minister R.D. Sathe at the Prime Ministry headquarters for a courtesy call this morning.

Attends Kabul Function

LD181744 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Last night a soiree was held in honor of Indian Deputy Foreign Minister R.D. Sathe in the protocol hall of the Foreign Ministry. It was given by Political Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abdol Hadi Mokammel. A number of hish ranking officials of the Foreign Ministry, companions of the Indian deputy foreign minister, Indian Ambassador to Kabul Dr Jaskaran Singh Teja, and members of the Indian Embassy took part in the soiree.

AGRICULTURE COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

LD181802 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] A preliminary protocol on the development of agricultural cooperation between Afghanistan and Bulgaria was signed today by Hasan Payman, general director of agriculture and agricultural produce, and (Hayan Jalud), leader of the Bulgarian delegation of experts.

Agreement has been reached to begin projects for the production of sugar beet, cotton and other vegetables over a preliminary area of 1,000 jeribs in the Qonduz, Baghlan and Takhar regions. The area will be extended at a later stage. The Bulgarian delegation of experts arrived in Kabul recently to discuss these projects and to sign the protocol.

KARMAL CONGRATULATES SFRY'S MIJATOVIC ON ELECTION

LD171536 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The Foreign Ministry Information Department reports that a congratulatory telegram has been sent to Belgrade from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, on the occasion of the election of Cvijetin Mijatovic as president of the Presidency of the SFRY.

PARTY OFFICIALS MARK HO CHI MINH'S BIRTHDAY

LD182324 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] A grand soiree has been held by the international relations commission of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee in the reception hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to mark the 90th birthday of Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the workers of Vietnam and the prominent personality of the international workers movement. Members of the PDPA Central Committee, members of the Revolutionary Council, prominent party cadres, high ranking government officials and the ambassadors of friendly countries to Kabul participated in the celebration. The soiree was opened with the national anthem of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] and the national anthem of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV], Engineer Nazar Mohammad, member of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Afghan-Vietnam friendship committee, made a speech and highlighted the struggling and heroic personality of Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the people of Vietnam, and his struggles in successfully bringing about the worker's revolution in Vietnam. He said: The toiling people of Afghanistan and, on their behalf, the PDPA, have always expressed their deep solidarity with the heroic people of Vietnam and have supported, and still supports their continuous struggle against imperialism. Nguyen Huu Khieu, the SRV ambassador to Kabul, gave thanks for the celebration of the 90th birthday of Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the people of Vietnam. He said: The party, government and people of the SRV are supporting the fraternal people of Afghanistan in the achievement and fulfillment of the aims of the Sawr Revolution, and are confident that the final victory will be won by the courageous people of Afghanistan.

During this meeting, Feda Mohammad Dehneshin, the chairman of the publicity committee, and Nyaz Mohammad Momand, the official responsible for the economic committee of the PDPA Central Committee, made statements about the 60 years of long life and struggle of Ho Chi Minh, the founder of the Vietnam Communist Party and the SRV.

KABUL COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT, WARSAW TREATY DECLARATIONS

LD162258 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 May 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] The recent Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] declaration, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, by pointing to a political solution for the complete and guaranteed cessation of aggressive actions against Afghanistan and to the desire for development of relations with Iran and Pakistan based on good neighbor relations, noninterference in each others affairs and mutual respect, has received broad favorable reaction in the world press.

The political advisory committee of the member countries of the Warsaw Pact, at the end of today's meetings in Poland, emphasized the necessity of a political solution to the situation in the region and declared that such a solution will be found ensuring that all foreign interference against the DRA Government and its people will be halted.

According to an All-India Radio report, the Indian prime minister, Indira Ghandi, commenting on the DRA declaration, said: The balanced behavior of the DRA has stopped the further spread of tension in the region.

FRG Foreign Minister Genscher said in Bonn that his government will consider the recent Afghan proposal with interest and without delay. The circulation of this declaration, which is an expression of the principled stand of the DRA for stable peace in the region and for the complete preparedness for the solution of differences with neighbors through talks, has been supported by the world's peace-loving circles and once again confirms Afghanistan's peaceful initiative.

KABUL CALLS FOR GUARANTEE ON CESSATION OF AGGRESSION

LD162156 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 May 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The declaration of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] which was announced through the Afghan media on Wednesday evening is a clear sign of the sincerity and well-meaning of revolutionary Afghanistan for the desire for peace in the region and the world and the elimination of the causes of the disruption of the international detente. This important declaration--if viewed with the same intentions by the opposite side--will, without any doubt, be counted as the beginning of a new phase in the stability of the situation in the region, the stability of normal and friendly relations between the Southeast Asian countries, and the expansion of human relations between the masses belonging to different geographic boundaries.

With this broad political and diplomatic program, the DRA has showed that it will not waste any time at all to realize a long lasting and just peace. This kind of action will be taken for the purpose of avoiding fratricide, tension and danger. On the other hand, the declaration resolutely announces that the people of Afghanistan have chosen their final path by their national and democratic Sawr Revolution. This shows that the path we have chosen by the glorious Sawr Revolution is a path of no return and the people of Afghanistan will never bargain with the revolution and its achievements.

What we want is only the search for practical ways to stop the interference by aggressive acts against the lawful Government of Afghanistan and through peaceful means. But traveling toward this is not possible on a one-way path. The realization of peace, more than any other thing, needs a good, peaceful intention and we have clearly expressed this sacred intention of the people of Afghanistan. What is important for us is that the noble masses of the region and the world clearly know that the humane regime in Afghanistan not only in theory but in political practice, places humanism and peace before hegemonism in political dealings.

Our demands in the seven-article declaration are not proposals that cannot be fulfilled. We say that the aggressive armed intervention and various acts of interference against revolutionary Afghanistan--the Afghanistan which has chosen the path of construction and progress--will cease and that they will cease and not be repeated.

This is important--that the aggression, once it has ceased, will not be repeated--because everyone knows that peace means not only the cessation of aggression but the realization of a long lasting peace and for this the guarantee that the aggression will not be repeated is necessary.

We, who are facing an undeclared war, only want the interfering forces and the agents of aggression and provocation, especially the United States, which is the major source of the encouragement of interference against Afghanistan, to clearly guarantee that all types of aggression, provocations and all external interference against the DRA will cease, and will not be started again. If this happens, the necessity for the existence of the limited military contingents of the USSR will no longer remain and this question could also be included as part of the political solution to the matter.

We, with our neighbors and especially the toiling masses of the region, say: Why should we not talk? In an age when the most complicated problems and matters are solved through discussion and understanding, no argument exists for a stubborn refusal to sit around a table for talks. The declaration of the DRA is an expression of the fact that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the DRA consider it very important to have normal and friendly relations with our neighbors, especially Iran and Pakistan. We know that the people of Afghanistan have strong and unbreakable cultural, historical and Islamic links with the people of these two countries.

We believe that the conspiracies are the conspiracies of imperialism and at its head U.S. imperialism, which is fanning discord and outbursts among the societies of the region, encouraging different elements and groups toward fratricide and Islamicide [as heard] in order, on the one hand, to block the path of progress of the people of the region and, on the other hand, to turn the tension-warmed region into eternal flames and to warm themselves by the flames of the region's burning fires. It is not important to them how many towers of human skulls are constructed one on top of the other. The people of the world saw this with their own eyes in Vietnam and they have also seen it in Kampuchea and the Middle East.

The declaration of the DRA leaves no place for seditionist and Satanic maneuvers and has clearly laid down the intentions of the parties concerned, in a resolute test [as heard] and will seriously find out and show who wants peace and humanity and who wants war and the disruption and destruction of the international order.

What we especially want from the Islamic nation is their understanding of the sincerity of our intentions to know that our intentions are nothing else than [to fight] against the anti-Islamic and antihuman circles of bloodthirsty and human-devouring imperialism. We place great importance and great value on peace and we consider peace to be the only suitable atmosphere for the peaceful life and social progress of our toiling masses and the Muslim people of the region.

'ABDOLMAJID SARBOLAND ATTENDS MEETINGS IN HERAT CITY

LD172310 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The warm greetings of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, were conveyed to the toiling people of Herat during a meeting held in the city gardens by 'Abdolmajid Sarboland, member of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Revolutionary Council and minister of information and culture.

During a talk with the religious leaders, elders and the people of Herat city in the presence of the governor of Herat, the minister outlined some matters concerning the success of the new development stage of the Sawr Revolution. He said: In this phase, when revolutionary Afghanistan is taking firm steps toward the construction and creation of a peaceful Afghanistan in order to realize justice, brotherhood and equality between the tribes and nationalities of the country, it is the duty of the religious leaders and intellectuals to explain the essence of the successes of the revolution's new development stage to other dear compatriots.

The minister of information and culture expressed his pleasure with his talks with the elders, religious leaders and the people of the Herat city and said: The leadership of the party and the DRA Government hopes that in the light of the unity and solidarity of the various strata of the country, the nation will overcome all the pains and persecutions imposed on the innocent people of Afghanistan during the reign of Amin, the recognized agent of U.S. imperialism, and his spy band. In reply a number of the religious leaders, on behalf of the meeting participants, expressed and promised their support for the party and Afghan Government leadership in defense of the homeland and the revolution.

'Abdolmajid Sarboland, minister of information and culture, arrived in Herat yesterday afternoon and was welcomed by the provincial committee secretary, the governor of Herat and the commander of the military force, at Herat city airport. According to another report, the minister of information and culture and his companions, subsequently went to the shrine of the pir [holy man] of Herat, Khwaja 'Abdollah Ansari and to the hill of the martyrs of the revolution, and prayed for their souls.

For the purpose of the confirmation, support, ratification and implementation of the decisions of the grand and historic second plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, the party activists of the 17th division of Herat, held a meeting today at the divisions headquarters. At this meeting, attended by 'Abdolmajid Sarboland and Honar Ghirat, organization assistant of the PDPA Central Committee, the national anthem of the DRA was played and then the minister of information and culture spoke about the importance and the constructive values of the ratification of the second plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. The meeting ended by drawing up a resolution expressing support for the confirmation and the implementation of the ratification and decisions of that plenum.

According to another report, 'Abdolmajid Sarboland took part in a meeting of the party activists of Herat Province which was held to support and implement the valuable decisions of the second plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, in Herat city hall this morning. In this meeting, too, the minister of information and culture explained the importance and the role of the decisions and ratification of the second plenum of the PDPA Central Committee in the lives of our toiling people.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TOURSE MILITARY INDUSTRIES

GF181735 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee Politburo, deputy head of the Revolutionary Council, deputy prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and planning minister, yesterday inspected various departments of the military industries of the general directorate of the armed forces political affairs department. During his inspection tour, Keshtmand talked to workers and employees and stressed their serious duties in light of the Sawr Revolution's supreme goals. A worker, speaking on behalf of his colleagues, promised full cooperation in this regard.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH U.S., HOSTAGES

Parliament May Schedule Hostage Release

NC190850 Paris AFP in English 0841 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Paris, May 19 (AFP)--Iran will free all its 53 American hostages if the Tehran Parliament ratifies a comprehensive package of measures for ending the crisis with the United States, according to a usually well-informed source here.

This scheme will be submitted to Iran's Parliament as soon as it convenes on June 5, the source said.

The hostages would be released in three phases. Several Islamic countries worked out the tentative plan with the backing of some Western European governments and the Socialist Internationale.

The first to be freed would be the three American diplomats who found sanctuary in the Iranian Foreign Ministry when Islamic militants seized the U.S. Embassy on Nov. 4, a source in touch with the mediators said.

The second phase would be the release of a further 40 hostages as soon as Tehran and Washington opened official negotiations to settle the 15,000-million-dollar financial dispute between them.

The third and final phase involves the release of the remaining 10 American hostages, considered by the Iranians to be members of the Central Intelligence Agency (C.I.A.).

The 10 would be freed on the signing of a treaty of peace and neutrality between Washington and Tehran, thier past activities having previously been investigated, the source said.

This schedule was worked out in recent weeks by an international goodwill mission which includes Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, formerly Greek Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem, Argentine businessman Hector Villalon, and French lawyer Christian Bourguet.

The plan was altered, according to the source, by last month's unsuccessful commando raid to free the hostages. Since then, Iran has demanded that the release of the hostages be in the framework of an agreement to guarantee Iranian neutrality.

Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh's recent round of visits to France, Switzerland, Italy, and the Gulf countries were also preparing the way for the same plan, the source added.

It is understood that the Italian Government agreed to mediate to persuade Washington to sign a treaty of neutrality and peace with Iran, while Spain and Switzerland are reportedly ready to coordinate the efforts of countries supporting such a treaty.

According to the source, Algeria and Syria have meanwhile been working towards the creation of an Islamic commission to work out details of the plan to be submitted to Iran's Parliament and which would be the basis for Washington-Tehran negotiations.

In addition, the task of setting up a commission of experts to mediate in the financial dispute between Iran and the United States is being undertaken by Switzerland and Algeria.

Since diplomatic relations were broken off, Switzerland has represented U.S. interests in Iran, and Algeria the interests of Iran in the U.S.

Spanish socialist leader Felipe Gonzales reportedly has asked the Socialist Internationale to back moderate Iranian politicians who are intent on getting the plan accepted by their Parliament.

Mr Qotbzadeh has also secured assurances from Switzerland and Spain that they will not support eventual all-out economic sanctions against Iran by other Western nations, while the Italian Government agreed to adopt a very moderate stance over European Economic Community (EEC) sanctions, the source said.

Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates have agreed to offset eventual economic sanctions by supplying Iran with raw materials, food, and pharmaceutical products.

There have also been pledges of support from East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Romania to take over Western development projects in Iran if and when they are suspended, the source concluded.

Student Statement 128 Released

LD170313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy released statement No. 128 today, addressed to the Muslim and fighting people of Zanjan and Qazvin. In this statement, after noting the struggle and self-sacrifice demonstrated by the champion people of Zanjan and Qazvin during the glorious days of our Islamic Revolution and the tragic acts committed by the mercenary agents of the Pahlavi regime, it is said:

Brave and Muslim people of Qazvin and Zanjan, a number of spy hostages are being sent to your cities to remind you of the days when you were captives in the hands of the agents of these hostages, the mercenaries of the treacherous shah, and to assure you that God rewards resistence and steadfastness by changing suffering to glory. We are sure that all the noble residents of that region, especially the committed and combatant clergy and the brave and revolutionary youths and the dear guardsmen, will do their best cooperate with the student brothers who have accompanied the hostages from the den of espionage to your cities in order to prepare them for the day of trial, the day of public disgrace of the criminal American leaders.

Bani-Sadr Requests European Help

NC171009 Paris AFP in English 1004 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Rome, May 17, (AFP)--Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in an interview published here today called on Europe, in particular Britain, France, West Germany and Italy, to put forward concrete proposals aimed at ending the crisis over the American Embassy hostages in Iran.

Europe should "put forward suggestions as to how we should act, advance concrete proposals, mediate, take action instead of simply condemning us," he told the correspondent for the Italian LA STAMPA in Tehran.

"Condemnation, participation in the (proposed U.S. sponsored economic) blockade are not policies, but the adoption of a sterile, mechanical attitude, which, as we have already seen, has had no useful results," he said.

"Be aware that you as well as us must face objective difficulties created by the hostage crisis and that these difficulties threaten to rock the international situation," he added.

Mr. Bani-Sadr, however, dismissed the possibility of his country coming under Soviet influence. "I prefer to endure any privation, any economic sacrifice rather than throw myself into the arms of the Soviet Union," he said.

He added that he was still hopeful that many countries--even the Western Europeans--would come forward and help Iran with its technological problems.

'Most' MP's Favor Trial

NC180746 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 18 May 80

[Report by Stephen McDonnell]

[Text] Tehran, May 18, (AFP)--Most deputies elected to the new Iranian Parliament want a trial of at least some of the estimated 53 Americans held hostage in Iran, one M.P. said in an interview published today.

The Parliament has been authorised by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to decide on the fate of the hostages after its first session opens on June 5.

The M.P., former Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi, envisaged Parliament deciding on the type of trial, its "political and economic objectives" and the sentences to be meted out to anyone convicted.

But he warned: "A trial of the hostages which becomes a trial of the persons alone would be a mistake."

The United States itself should go in the dock for its role in Iran since the 1953 coup that restored the shah to power, he said.

He admitted it was still unclear how the 270-seat Parliament would tackle the hostage issue. "What is definite and clear from statements made and positions taken by the members is that M.P.'s generally favour a trial of the hostages," he said.

The interview was carried by KEYHAN newspaper, which Mr Yazdi edits. The paper said he made his remarks before being elected to Parliament.

Americans Reported Seen Near Embassy

NC181110 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Tehran, May 18 (AFP)--Hundreds of Iranian Revolutionary Guards launched a widespread search today after two Americans were reported to have been seen outside the occupied U.S. Embassy, according to a senior guardsman at the embassy gates.

He said the two were spotted sitting in an unmarked military jeep some 200 yards (meters) from the compound, and one of two Iranians with them was carrying a machine gun.

But a spokesman at the Pasdaran Revolutionary Guards headquarters said he was unaware of the incident, adding that an announcement would be made if the news were confirmed.

The incident was related by guardsman Amir Rahimi, who said he headed a Pasdaran intelligence unit. Colleagues with him outside the embassy backed his story.

He said a plain-clothes Pasdaran agent approached the jeep and heard two men aged about 27 speaking English with American accents.

They had a plan of the embassy area unfolded in front of them on the back seat, and were marking down positions of sentry posts, he said.

The agent reportedly saw the barrel of a machine-gun on the lap of one of the Iranians in the front seat before the men realised they had been seen and drove off at high speed towards north Tehran.

Three hundred Pasdaran units, each with at least six armed men, were immediately mobilised throughout the capital to hunt for the jeep, guardsman Rahimi said.

He commented: "They were obviously planning another Entebbe-style raid but we are ready for them."

He claimed embassy security had been tightened four-fold since the abortive U.S. operation on April 25 to free the Americans held hostage in Iran since November.

Militants holding the embassy knew of today's incident but the hostages had not been informed, he said.

The militants say they have scattered the embassy hostages among 16 towns across the country, but guardsman Rahimi said some were still in the compound.

Hostages in Shiraz Moved

GF181455 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The location of the U.S. spy hostages in Shiraz has been changed. Muslim student followers of the imam's line, who have come to Shiraz and are in charge of keeping hostages, made this announcement in the following communique:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Brave Muslim citizens of Shiraz, when we arrived in Shiraz we considered the former consulate, which is a branch of the same U.S. espionage and conspiracy center, to be the best place to keep the U.S. spies. That was why we transferred them there. But from the very first days of our stay we realized that there was a lack of security in that location due to the absence of any protection. And this was something that our friends, especially the brother guardsmen, also noticed. Therefore, with the assistance of the esteemed clergy and our brother guardsmen we were able to find a more suitable location in a few days time.

The U.S. spies are currently being kept in a building located at Revolution Square, Corps Circle, at the beginning of Zand Avenue, adjacent to the Revolution Court.

While thanking you, the brave citizens of Shiraz, for all your cooperation and efforts, and while expressing our gratitude to the devoted clergymen of Shiraz, who have been very kind to us, as well as thanking our brother guardsmen, who have been generously diligent all this time, we once again, as in the past, ask everyone to be wary of and alert to all conspiratorial acts and counterrevolutionary moves. This is especially important at this time when certain despicable acts of conspiracy have been noticed.

[Signed] Muslim student followers of the imam's line in Shiraz.

U.S. JOURNALIST MOVED FROM TEHRAN TO UNDISCLOSED LOCATION

NC171340 Paris AFP in English 1329 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Tehran, May 17, (AFP)--An American woman journalist arrested 12 days ago on spying charges has been moved from Tehran's Evin Prison to an undisclosed destination, an official spokesman said today.

But permission to visit her has still been denied to the Swiss Embassy, which is handling U.S. affairs in Iran.

Swiss Ambassador Eric Lang said the Iranian Foreign Ministry refused to say where she was held or to specify exact charges against her. Cynthia Dwyer, a freelance journalist from Buffalo in New York State, was arrested by revolutionary guards on May 5.

Press reports said security men claimed to have found papers in her hotel room proving she had links with the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

UN SAYS INVESTIGATORY COMMISSION WILL RETURN IN 10 DAYS

LD181856 Tehran in English to Europe 1830 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] A UN spokesman has announced that UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim will send a delegation to Iran within 10 days to resume negotiations on the release of the U.S. hostages. The spokesman said that Waldheim will send 'Aziz Da'udi, a prominent jurist, to the capital of Iran to discuss restarting the work of the UN investigatory commission.

After many advisory talks with the governments of Iran and the United States, which have both indicated the desire [words indistinct], in Waldheim's opinion this time (he has found something new). It is expected that Da'udi will come to Tehran within 10 days.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON AD-DAWUDI VISIT

JN182032 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Following the dissemination of a news report on Adib ad-Dawudi's visit to Tehran, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued a statement in which it announced that Ad-Dawudi is a member of the five-member commission which has previously visited Iran and that his mission in Iran is solely for the purpose of studying and completing the report of the above-mentioned commission, whose task is to investigate the former shah's crimes and the U.S. attacks on Iran. The statement added that Ad-Dawudi has no other task.

BBC REPORTS ON KHOMEYNI DENIAL OF COUP RUMORS

TA190649 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 19 May 80

[From "Correspondents' Reports"]

[Text] After much recent speculation about the possibility of a coup in Iran, the subject has now been raised by the country's leader himself, Ayatollah Khomeyni. The Ayatollah said that the idea was unthinkable, and the conditions for a coup did not exist, but our correspondent in Tehran, Alex Brodie, says that what is interesting is that Ayatollah Khomeyni felt it necessary to comment at all on the possibility of a coup.

[Begin recording] Don't listen to foolish words spoken behind closed doors, he said. I assure you that the nation is indestructible. So, the highest authority in the land has, it could be said, given credence to speculation about a coup by denying the possibility. In the newspapers there have been reports of airspace violations, secret American airports, enemies on all borders. In Tehran bombs went off. Sabotage continued in Khuzestan. The London Embassy was occupied. War raged in Kordestan.

The blame was attached variously to American spies, Iraqi agents, supporters of the shah's last prime minister, Shahpur Bakhtiar, and generally counterrevolutionaries. A fundamentalist Islamic group distributed leaflets, telling people how to act in the event of a coup, in great detail. President Bani-Sadr, even, said he had news of the infiltration of 96 American agents, and said if anything happened don't blame the army. Following the abortive American raid, coup paranoia is understandable, and more than that, some of the wild accusations about American intentions became believable. But the latest official statements raised the question: Are they using an external threat to unite the nation or are they seriously worried? [end recording]

COMMENTARY ON REACTION TO EUROPEAN TRADE SANCTIONS

Qotbzadeh: 'No Fear of Blockade'

LD162054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Qotbzadeh, Iran's minister of foreign affairs, spoke to our correspondent before leaving Tehran this afternoon. He said: The Iranian Government has not and will not, under any circumstance, ask for a postponement of economic sanctions by the European countries.

He added: I announced for the first time, in a press conference in Zurich last week, and have repeatedly announced, that we have no fear of an economic blockade by Europe. I stressed: Let them carry out their economic sanctions on Iran, so that once and for all the myth of economic sanctions would be shattered for the countries who have risen against imperialism and so that humanity would no longer fear such whistlings in the dark.

Imports Increased To Beat Sanctions

LD191103 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 May 80 p 5

[Amit Roy report: "Iran on Imports Spree To Beat EEC Sanctions"]

[Text] Tehran--Iran industry has been engaged in a hectic "beat the sanctions" buying spree, with ships and aircraft importing all manner of goods before today's deadline set by the Common Market.

EEC countries are committed to imposing trade and economic sanctions against Iran because there has been no appreciable progress over the release of the 50 American hostages dispersed in cities throughout the country.

A senior ambassador with expert knowledge of the economic scene said yesterday: "There is a slight siege atmopsphere on the commercial and import front. People are really stocking up.

"A lot of stuff came by aircraft and there is a lot of activity in the southern ports. There are plenty of ships coming in. The problem is only in unloading.

"They are grabbing whatever they can get hold of, from printing presses to machinery." The consensus of opinion among economists was that "sanctions will cause dislocation but not deprivation."

Severe Shortages

Since Iran had to import most of its needs, there were severe shortages in many fields, particularly steel. Car parts were difficult to obtain, hence a sharp rise in the number of stolen vehicles.

The ambassador said if sanctions had been imposed in early November, "it would have hit Iran in the solar plexus."

Sanctions were being imposed by the Western nations "in a very diluted form. Food and medicine are exempt. After all, it is only future contracts and things like that."

The last six months had given Iran plenty of opportunity to find ways of evading sanctions. In the last month or so, when it became clear the EEC would go ahead with sanctions, companies had stockpiled heavily.

Housewives had stuffed freezers with as much food as possible.

"The Iranians have pulled out most of their money from areas where they feel it is most vulnerable," an ambassador said.

"They feel quite confident that the British will not do anything that will disturb their reputation as bankers."

A considerable amount of money had been withdrawn from West Germany. Some had been deposited in Libyan and Algerian banks. "It is for laundering purposes."

Banks in Bahrain, which were immune to a great extent from local laws, had also been used.

They would almost certainly send the deposited money back to Europe. The money was not technically Iranian, and therefore could not be frozen.

As far as oil purchases were concerned, the Iranians had detached themselves completely from the European community.

Commerce Minister on Sanctions

LD181910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Reza Sadr, our country's commerce minister, has stated in an interview with our correspondent that most of the goods purchased from EEC countries since the occupation of the U.S. den of espionage in Tehran have either been unloaded at Iranian ports or are en route to Iran. Please pay attention to our colleague's interview with the commerce minister:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Sadr, could you first state the consequences of the decision adopted by the foreign ministers of the EEC countries and [words indistinct].

[Answer] In general, the agreements which have been signed from this date onwards are of two types. One concerns our foodstuffs, which will not in any way be affected by the decision. The other concerns consumer goods and raw materials for our factories. All the agreements concerning these types of goods--I should say that most of the goods concerned have either been shipped or are being shipped. Of course, it is not clear to us as yet whether or not the decision will apply to those goods in transit. However, before the EEC decision we were not idle; we have had contacts with various countries and a number of dealers have approached us. I believe that the European countries have restricted their sanctions to some extent because the sanctions will not be effective, just as many economists have predicted. Therefore they have been trying to save face in case the sanctions do not succeed.

[Question] Can you say what sort of agreements we have had with European countries since the occupation of the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran by the Muslim student followers of the Imam's policy?

[Answer] When one asks about agreements I believe that you are referring to the contracts. These contracts concern purchases, including contracts with private firms. Of course, I do not have the figures involved with me right now and I cannot give you details. But I can tell you that we have purchased a large quantity of goods since the occupation of the embassy. What is important is whether what we purchased has been shipped or not, or whether it has reached us or not. Many of the goods purchased by the government so far have reached us or are being unloaded. In my view what they mean by agreements concerns the contracts for purchases, not the detailed agreements and so forth.

[Question] Do you think the EEC decision will have any effect on our country's economy, or can we say that the European economic sanctions against Iran will face complete defeat?

[Answer] The complete failure of the U.S. economic sanctions is perfectly clear to everyone. As you know, from the first days American dockers have refused to load ships for Iran in the same way as [words indistinct]. But we know clearly that this has not had any tangible effect on our situation. On the other hand, we have gone to other countries to seek replacements and several Iranian trade delegations have also visited other countries on behalf of the Commerce Ministry and we have found replacements for many of the goods originally imported from the United States. I am confident that there will not be any tangible effect from the European sanctions. I must note, in particular, that the offers made to us in this regard are much greater than during normal times, that is, that from the moment the sanctions begin a number of countries and numerous dealers will come to us. The number of offers reaching us each day is greater than the day before. The only possible impact of the economic sanctions on our economic situation is that the goods may be slightly more expensive than before. But I do not think that no goods will reach us. Of course, another effect of this situation is extremely positive, that is, our society will be facing these kinds of economic sanctions with the utmost courage and it will become accustomed to the idea that the dependence on the West that exists should be eliminated [words indistinct] consumerism tendency to some exter and eliminate the problem of wasting and squandering things, and that the people should bring themselves closer to an Islamic economy. [end recording]

Oil Minister on Sanctions

NC181115 Paris AFP in English 1104 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Tehran, May 18 (AFP)--The economic sanctions against Iran announced today by the European Economic Community come as no surprise in Tehran and will not affect the Iranian economy, Iranian Oil Minister 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar said here today.

He told AFP "we were expecting measures of this sort and have already taken every precaution to deal with them."

He added that the main effect of sanctions would be "to worsen the crisis in Western countries."

Mr Mo'infar also confirmed that Iran recently signed a contract for the sale of about 30,000 barrels of oil a day to China, and confirmed that from now on only five "neutral" banks--two Swiss, a Swedish, an Austrian and an Indian--will be authorised to handle oil purchases from the National Iranian Oil Company.

Further Oil Minister Statements

LD181932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, oil minister and member of the Revolution Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said in an interview with our correspondent on the latest decision by the EEC foreign ministers that the reason for the change in the decisions is that these governments are on one hand seeking America's approval; and on the other they realize the inanity of these decisions and are trying to free themselves from the tight situation caused by Carter's pressure on them. I now draw your attention to our correspondent's interview with the oil minister: [begin recording]

[Question] As you are aware, the foreign ministers of the European Common Market countries (?decided) at their recent meeting that economic sanctions against Iran should be limited to [words indistinct] I would like to ask you what is the reason for such a decision, which in fact greatly differs from their previous decisions?

[Answer] The Common Market countries and also Japan are under severe pressure by the U.S. Government and must, in any way possible, express their friendship toward the United States. However, they themselves are aware that such decisions are extremely illogical and have no effect on a solution to the quarrel between Iran and the United States. Therefore, in order to keep the United States satisfied, they imagined they could find a moderate course of action, so that future relations between those countries and Iran would not be worsened. The biggest sign of this [word indistinct] is in fact the behavior of the Japanese Government towards us. On one hand Japan announces, for the (?sake) of the United States, that it will follow the decisions of the Common Market countries and do whatever they wish; on the other hand it tries, in a trivial fashion, to gain the approval of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The remarks made by leaders of Japan have repeatedly shown that (?this is so). These actions and remarks have angered the Japanese people, who in my opinion, wish for friendly relations with the Iranian people and are worried about the future of their relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. As you know, they gave a vote of no confidence to Mr Ohira's government, one of the reasons for which is his subservience to America.

In any case, in my opinion, the reason for the change in the decision and positions is due to the equivocal attitude that these governments have adopted, so that on one hand they wish to keep the American Government happy, and on the other hand they realize the inanity and uselessness of these decisions and are trying to free themselves from the tight situation caused by the pressure applied on them by Mr Carter.

[Question] What, in your opinion, is the [word indistict] of the recent meeting of the EEC foreign ministers [words indistinct] regarding Iran?

[Answer] Considering the preparations we had and have--we prepared ourselves for greater things than this--I believe that no new problem is facing us; we anticipated this. We even thought the action would be more severe; we prepared ourselves so that if the action were more severe, no change should occur in the course adopted by the Iranian nation. Hence I do not envisage a particular [word indistinct] in this decision, except that we [words indistinct] and we have been prepared. What is certain to me is the solidarity and unity that we have in our country. In any case, who would scratch my back except myself? We should try and solve our internal problems ourselves. We should even assume that we are under total economic blockade and act accordingly. This assumption has been allowed for in our calculations.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The next stage of Mr Carter's insanity could appear in any form. But what we can say is that the course adopted by the Iranian nation will not change, no matter what change or weakening might occur in the attitude of these countries. Whether they adopt an equivocal attitude or even act more severely, the course of the Iranian nation will not be affected.

The only thing that we can say is what concerns us. We have prepared ourselves for any eventuality. In any case, whatever America's decision, what is important to us is not America's decision, but that of the Iranian people. The decision of the Iranian people will definitely be to face up to all these problems and inconveniences. [end recording]

Bani-Sadr Appeal for Restraint

LD181638 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 0600 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Tehran has sent an urgent appeal to the EEC requesting moderation. Our correspondent Maurizio Mengoni reports:

Bani-Sadr has issued a last-minute appeal to the European foreign ministers gathered in Naples. Late last night the president summoned the six Italian journalists still in Tehran. In order to speak to us, he interrupted the proceedings of the Council of the Revolution which was in session at the Presidency.

With a heart-broken voice, he said to us: It is not understandable. It is not justifiable that Europe should follow the United States' policy at all costs. You claim you are doing this for the hostages, but our Parliament will be meeting within a few days--I state specifically to you: Within 10 days--and among the first problems it will discuss will be that of the American prisoners. Why cannot Europe wait?

We asked him what hope the hostages had of returning home safe and sound. He replied that he was sure that it will end that way, but he added that any European pressure and any American provocation will delay the solution and make it more difficult.

We asked him if he could commit himself more precisely, if he could make that concrete gesture that the Europeans are waiting for, in order to avoid having to impose economic sanctions against Iran. In a faint voice, he replied: If we can solve the hostage affair quickly, our economy can bloom once again, correct relations can be resumed with the world, trade with Europe can expand. For you Italians, there is much to do here.

But in that "if" there was the entire drama of a man who is not in a position to offer us anything apart from his disconsolate image. Bani-Sadr today counts for little in this country, and any pressure from outside simply strengthens the integralists and weakens him even further.

Mixed Reaction to Sanctions

LD181850 Rome Domestic Service in Italian 1700 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Naples--The countries of the European Economic Community have decided to apply limited economic sanctions against Iran. Contracts entered with the Iranian Government after 4 November last year will be frozen with the exception of those involving food products and medical supplies. These measures were adopted this morning by the EEC foreign ministers and will come into force next Thursday, 22 May.

At tomorrow's meeting, the Italian Council of Ministers will discuss the procedures required to implement the sanctions.

The first reactions have been registered in Tehran. Here is a report by our correspondent Maurizio Mengoni:

It could have been worse but the European decision is a grave one nevertheless. This is the first unofficial comment in Tehran in the absence of formal statements so far. President Bani-Sadr is visiting the south of the country at Bandar Abbas; Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh is in Islamabad attending the Islamic conference; Oil Minister Mo'infar merely said the sanctions had not surprised him and that, in any case, they will not cause much damage to the country's economy.

Nevertheless, the decision taken in Naples has been received in government circles with a mixture of disappointment and relief; disappointment because until the last minute there were hopes of a postponement--this was requested, among other things, by President Bani-Sadr himself when he addressed some Italian journalists last night; relief because the European embargo does not include the cancellation of contracts signed before 4 November last year, which in practice means all those currently in force.

In order to express a more sophisticated judgement--we were told this afternoon--it will be necessary to study in detail the protocols of application of the commercial blockade. For instance, for work in progress they will allow the possibility of stipulating necessary additional agreements, the dispatch of equipment, the updating of prices, and all necessary technical improvement without which even contracts excluded from sanctions would finally die of suffocation.

Meanwhile, from tomorrow Italy and Iran will reintroduce consular visas for travel between the two countries; from next Thursday, 22 May, the Iranian Central Bank will arbitrarily set the rate of exchange between the rial and the dollar.

Tehran Comment on EEC Decisions

JN182043 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 May 80

[Muhammad al-Musawi commentary: "The Policy of Self-Sufficiency Is the Firm Retort to the Naples Decisions"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate: Since the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Iran has been arduously seeking to attain self-sufficiency and restrict nonessential foreign imports. The Islamic Revolution thus revealed its true identity by adopting this progressive course, which has never been adopted by any other revolution in the world.

The revolution announced its Islamic identity, which is independent from both East and West, even prior to its victory and when it triumphed, slogans had to be translated into actuality and action. The principles of Islam stress self-sufficiency and individual independence. These principles exhort Muslims to do without foreigners, particularly when need can be the cause of subservience.

"No to the East and no to the West" does not mean political independence only. It also means dispensing with both East and West in all economic and cultural fields.

Another factor which prompted Iran to attain self-sufficiency and to do without foreigners was its conviction that neither the East nor the West will stand idle vis-a-vis the new Islamic resurgence. They will do their best to stop the sweeping Islamic revolution, which is flowing from Iran, from spreading to other countries in the world.

When the United States announced about 6 months ago its intention to boycott Iran in the wake of the detention of its agents in its embassy, our people were not affected by this threat. They became more determined to continue the struggle against the United States. The decisions of nine European countries meeting in Naples, Italy to boycott Iran will not affect Iran's decision to continue its march inside and outside the country and its detention of the hostages until it achieves its legitimate demands. On the contrary, their decision will be another incentive towards self-building and the policy of dispensing with the West.

The United States and the nine countries will be defeated when they realize that every shop in Iran has been transformed into a factory to manufacture the spare parts which Iran used to import. Houses have been transformed into working sites, just as happened in Japan after World War II.

If the boycott decision has any effect, this effect will be on the nine countries which valiantly joined the United States in committing an injustice against an unarmed people who suffered oppression and torture under the defunct regime and who are still suffering from the masters of this regime.

The effect of the decisions will be extremely bad for the EEC because the decisions expose the subservience of these countries to the United States. In the age of liberation from colonialism, history will record that the United States had nine strong colonies in Europe. The second bad effect on the European countries will be Iran's total abstention from foreign trade and its movement toward self-sufficiency. The effect this decision will have on the interests of the European countries, the economies of which depend upon Iranian oil supplies, is obvious. The EEC committed suicide when it allowed itself to be ordered around by the Pentagon. It will pay the high price for its stand when the winds of change begin to blow in this turbulent world. Instead of standing alongside the arch-Satan, it should have told the United States: stop your injustices and aggressions.

Beheshti Call for Self-Reliance

LD182230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Following tonight's session of the Revolutionary Council, which was held in the same place as the council of experts, Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, the supervisor of the Interior Ministry, said to reporters: The members of the Revolutionary Council have invited the members of the National Consultative Assembly to attend the introductory session on 25 May in Tehran, when the country's current affairs will be discussed. He added: The deadline for the seven-man committee for submitting its views on the first stage of the elections is 21 May. The National Consultative Assembly will be will be inaugurated on 28 May.

Of course, the seven-man committee has already expressed its views on a number of towns but since extreme care is taken progress is slow.

Regarding the elections that have been deferred in some areas, the supervisor of the Interior Ministry said: Until Kordestan is completely calm, so that the people can freely elect their representatives, no elections will take place. I think that we can hold elections in that region within a month. Regarding the annulment of the election results in a number of regions, he said: The seven-man committee has declared the election results in Saveh and Rudsar null and void. The Interior Ministry, in accordance with the Revolutionary Council decision, is forced to accept the views of the seven-man committee, even if we disagree with them. In these two places the elections were conducted fairly in the eyes of the Interior Ministry. The seven-man committee agreed that no cheating had occurred, but decided that violations of regulations had taken place.

Regarding the holding of elections in these areas, the supervisor of the Interior Ministry said: Elections will be held immediately in these parts. Elections in Saveh will take place at the end of this week and in Rudsaw perhaps by the end of the week. The second round of elections in Kermanshah--which had been stopped--will be held next Friday, 30 May.

According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent, following the council session Ayatollah Dr Beheshti said to reporters: A bill for speedier and more decisive investigations of the cases of those accused of producing, distributing and transporting narcotics was ratified. The bill states that persons involved in this should be dealt with very decisively so that our young generation and our people can be rid of these monsters.

Regarding the declaration of economic sanctions by the Common Market, Ayatollah Beheshti said: I have repeatedly said that our nation and the Revolutionary Council have been prepared for and forseen such crises. Our case is not a special one; any nation which has wished to free itself of the giants has encountered such crises. But those nations that have accepted these crises and have overcome them with initiative and (?creative) movement and have solved these crises through self-reliance and self-confidence and creative work, have attained the final victory. But those nations that were too soft and sought to proceed with their revolutions to final victory without incurring difficulties and hardship once again suffered true suppression, that is, a return to a system that is irresponsible, dependent, unstable and subordinate to foreigners in a new form.

I hope that our revolutionary and self-sacrificing nation is in the former category, and that it will provide an example of victory rather than a lesson of defeat to others.

FOREIGN MINISTER QOTBZADEH, DELEGATION ATTEND ISLAMABAD CONFERENCE

Predeparture Statement

LD161828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, leading a delegation, left for Islamabad this evening in order to take part in the Islamic countries' foreign ministers' conference.

Before leaving Tehran, the foreign minister granted an interview to our correspondent and answered the questions put to him with regard to issues which would be raised by Iran at the conference. We now draw your attention to this interview: [Begin recording]

[Question] Mr Qotbzadeh, could you please tell us about the outcome of Iran's participation in the earlier Islamabad conference, held in February 1980?

[Answer] The chief outcome was our measure toward establishing a balance concerning the conference's direction, our general policy being neither West nor East. At this conference, which was held to deal with the Afghanistan issue in particular, we instructed our delegation on how to act and on what basis to act, while I personally was in constant contact with it, making sure that the conference's position was in line with our general policy [words indistinct] consequently, we managed to strike a balance [words indistinct] and the conference demonstrated that it could move along the path of the policy of neither West nor East.

Therefore, it is because of this that this time I am personally taking part in the conference so that we may have better success in implementing our principal line in a more forceful manner among the Islamic countries.

[Question] In its previous session the conference included a five-point secondary resolution on its agenda concerning Iran. However, it appears that the resolution's phrasing has been rather mild with regard to Iranian-U.S. relations, that a decisive tone was lacking in the resolution when it came to supporting Iran. Is the Islamic Republic of Iran satisfied with this resolution?

[Answer] To begin with, it was not a secondary resolution. It was a resolution prepared on a separate paper. Consequently, [words indistinct] along with another resolution. Moreover, this earlier conference was held to deal with Afghanistan, and since it was an extraordinary and special conference, the Iranian issue should not have been raised. However, we pressed for the issue being raised. I spoke to [word indistinct]. We were in contact with the various ambassadors, telling them that our purpose in participating in it was to have the Iranian issue discussed as well.

As for the tone of the resolution being mild, if there are people who believe that the resolutions issued by various conferences should include swearing and curses, then I do not think we can do this at the conference [words indistinct]. However, if the idea is to condemn, then they have. When it is said that we condemn U.S. sanctions against Iran or any Islamic country, to us this is quite adequate. As for the inclusion of such terms as: this blood-sucking, criminal, imperialist, this thieving, swindling imperialism; such terms are not used in resolutions issued by international conferences.

[Question] It is said that a great many regimes participating in the Islamabad conference are recognized as America's friends. What are Iran's expectations in taking part in this conference? What does it expect from these countries? Especially in view of U.S. (?aggression) and its preparations for further aggression against Iran?

[Answer] It is because of this that we are taking part. We are taking part, hoping to reverse the direction of the move adopted by the Islamic countries. Unfortunately, such an attitude is caused by the existence of such regimes as the deposed shah's in Iran and certain other governments. We want to give it a moderate direction, neither Western nor Eastern. Our object in participating in this conference is this: There is no doubt that we will be able to take positive steps in this regard. However, if we expect to change the world by participating in this conference or expect unreasonable outcomes, then it is not feasible. [sentence indistinct]

[Question] As the Iranian foreign minister, what specific topics are you going to raise at this conference?

[Answer] Naturally, one is the Iranian issue. Others include the issues of Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon and, obviously, Palestine.

[Question] What is Iran's stand with regard to each of these issues?

[Answer] Condemning the United States for its aggression against Iran and interfering in Iran's affairs; condemning the USSR for its aggression against Afghanistan; condemning Iraq for its internal crimes and its violation of our borders; supporting the people of Lebanon who are subjected to the military oppression and yoke of Israel and the fact that southern Lebanon belongs to the people of southern Lebanon; and, naturally, defending the Palestinian issue and demanding the freedom of [word indistinct].

[Question] (?Pakistan) had made a proposal to the conference, a proposal which is to be raised at this conference as well, to the effect that a joint defense system should be formed among the Islamic countries. Do you think that this can be effected? Furthermore, considering our present conditions, what can we expect from the slamic countries, at a time when we are concerned with U.S. military, political and economic aggression?

[Answer] As a theory, as for anticipating the future, it is natural that all Islamic countries should unite and have complete unity; they should be able to have such pacts. However, as for achieving this objective under the present conditions and circumstances, I believe [words indistinct] it requires time and judgment.

[Question] According to agency reports, U.S. warships are ready to move toward the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, and U.S. military equipment has been painted in such a way as to be able to advance inside Iranian territory. Furthermore, there are reports on the commencement of U.S. aggression against Iran. What defensive position can Iran adopt against these attacks by America?

[Answer] These reports by the various agencies, that new attacks are to be launched, that more pressure is to be applied, all these are aimed at demoralizing our people and strengthening the opposition and the counterrevolutionaries. America will not, that is, it cannot, do such a thing. At any rate, I have said this on a number of occasions. We cannot resist America militarily. However, we can turn every inch of his country's territory into hell for anyone wanting to invade our homeland or wanting to turn our country into [word indistinct]. I assure you that every inch of this country's territory shall be submerged in fire and blood for anyone wanting to do this from [word indistinct]. Consequently, I have no worry whatsoever. These are senseless untterances.

[Question] Recently there were reports that European countries--some European countries--are about to take the initiative in mediating between Iran and America. There is also a report that they want to propose peace and neutrality. Has the Iranian Government been officially informed of this?

[Answer] No, we have not been officially informed. We are totally uninformed about these agency reports. At any rate, I do not believe this a serious issue, for most of [word indistinct] are not here [words indistinct].

[Question] As for Iran's relations with Iraq, some agencies have reported that the PLO has announced its readiness to mediate between Iran and Iraq. Is this true? Have we announced our readiness for this mediation?

[Answer] No, we have repeatedly stated that we will not accept any mediation. As far as we are concerned, Iraq is precisely the same as Israel in this region. Therefore, we cannot have friendship or cooperation with a country whose hand is stained with the blood of hundreds of thousands of Iraqi Muslims. We have informed all those cooperating with the Iraqi Government that this is a humanitarian battle, an Islamic battle. Still, if there is someone wanting to establish friendship and entertains love for us, then this is something between him, God and the people. We cannot accept such a responsibility. We will not accept any mediation. We have repeatedly said this and I say it again, that as far as we are concerned, the issue of Iraq, the issue of the present government of Iraq, is a fait accompli.

Statements from Islamabad

LD182006 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1716 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, at the Islamabad conference of foreign ministers of Muslim states our country's Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh talked about various issues in the Middle East connected with Muslim countries. According to a Foreign Ministry report Qotbzadeh requested that the issue of America's military attack on Iran and the problem of Palestine be discussed first, and that the issue of Afghanistan be discussed later. He added: The problems of countries subject to aggression, be it in Iran or Jerusalem or Kabul, are all considered to be the result of imperialist aggression. For us there is no difference between East and West: We must look at these problems in all countries--whatever form it may have--from the same viewpoint and with the cooperation of all Muslims of the world. With the help of all Muslim countries we should strongly resist them.

Qotbzadeh said: Iran has made its decision on the issue of America's military aggression: We are ready for any sacrifice, for defense and struggle, and we are ready to fight until we are martyred.

Qotbzadeh's speech was welcomed by the foreign ministers present at the meeting and they expressed their support for his remarks.

The Foreign Ministry report states that at first the stand of the Islamic countries was that the USSR's military invasion of Afghanistan must be given priority, and that the issues of the American military attack on Iran and the problem of Palestine should be discussed later.

According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report the Iranian foreign minister said in an interview with representatives of the Iranian press that the issue of America's aggression against Iran is on the conference agenda, and a resolution on it will be passed.

In answer to the question: Will the Islamic countries adopt a common stand in order to avert the effects of the U.S. economic sanctions against Iran, Qotbzadeh said condemnation by the Islamic countries of America's action is itself an indication of the harmonious stand of these countries on this issue. He said we expect the motto "Neither East Nor West" to be used in the general policy of this conference so that we can adopt firm stands on the main issue. He added: In the meeting with the foreign ministers of Islamic countries I have expressed the clear policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Qotbzadeh added: Naturally some differences can be seen between the Arab countries. We do not want to enter into these differnces without reason.

Sadeq Qotbzadeh, leader of Iran's delegation to the 11th conference of foreign ministers of the Islamic countries, met at noon today with General Ziaul Haq, Pakistan's president.

The under-secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ambassador of the Republic of Pakistan were also present at the meeting. Last night Qotbzadeh met with some of the foreign ministers who had taken part in the Islamabad conference.

AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW SEES NO COMMITMENT TO U.S. OR USSR

LD171259 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Mohammad Mokri, the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to the USSR, prior to returning to his mission in Moscow, referred in an interview with a PARS NEWS AGENCY reporter to the talks between the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers in Vienna. He said: Although the Soviet leaders have emphasized that they would not have any secret agreements directed against Iran, one should nevertheless follow these talks carefully.

In reply to a question about what steps ought to be taken so that Iran will not be enmeshed in U.S.-Soviet rivalries he said: As we are being true to our nonaligned positions and are acting decisively, we wish to utilize all our social, cultural and pooitical structures for preserving national independence and sovereignty and Islamic and humanitarian principles and toward helping the deprived, oppressed and colonial-stricken nations. Therefore, our struggle against one of these superpowers should not be tantamount to our dependence on the bloc of the other superpower. Our struggle against the United States is not aimed at pleasing the Soviet Government. Our lack of understanding toward and adoption of certain positions in relation to the USSR should not gladden the U.S. Government and thereby give it the impression that it is in order to please the West and the enemies of the USSR that we are (?standing aloof from the latter).

We will act in a manner that will serve the interests of our country's Islamic Revolution and independence and we will attempt to bar the way to those who by resorting to a war of nerves every minute endeavor to propel us in another direction through their cunning and even ignorant methods. We are the ones who decide and not the extremist leftist and rightist blocs, which are hypocritically (?feigning) friendship toward us but at the same do not believe in the Islamic ideology.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to the USSR added: Today, the U.S. superpower and its agents are confronting our revolution and imagine that they threaten our very existence and life. By employing all our capabilities we are ready for a great jihad but we will not fall into the lap of another superpower and, while maintaining friendly relations with other countries, we will not give them any right to interfere whatsoever. The U.S. Government would be extremely pleased if we were to make a mistake and, in an effort to meet their military and economic threats, were to bring in the USSR and allow it to meddle in our affairs--thereby giving the impression to certain Soviet leaders that they could put their foot in under the pretext of helping us and struggling against the United States.

It is up to our competence, our power of thinking and planning and our strong action to prove the maturity of our revolution to the world and to demonstrate that our Islamic mission is a humanitarian one and is by no means the prelude to creation of tension and preparations for World War III.

He was asked: Do you expect World War III to break out between the United States and the USSR, particularly in the Persian Gulf region? [passage indistinct]

AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT DISCUSSES AFRICAN, ARAB REGIONAL POLICIES

LD161545 Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 12 May 80 p 12

["KEYHAN correspondent" report of interview with Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Dr Ali Shams Ardakani: "Diplomatic Relations Should Not Be Governed by Blind Prejudices"--date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive interview with BAMDAD yesterday, Islamic Republic of Iran Ambassador to Kuwait Ali Shams Ardakani explained his political views.

In reply to the question "How many African countries did you visit and for what purpose was your tour undertaken?" he replied:

"In order to hold discussions, to create friendly relations and to study how the Islamic Republic of Iran might set up embassies in Libya and Tanzania, I visited those two countries, as well as a numbe. of other countries in Africa. Throughout my meetings with the autorities, and in particular with the people, an attempt was made to explain and publicize in the best manner the details and aims of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and to some extent to neutralize the plots and propaganda of imperialist America and its agents."

Iran's ambassador to Kuwait said: "I repeat again that diplomatic relations should not be governed by blind prejudices. How can we have Qabus' representative in Tehran and yet not have relations with countries with which we are at least not engaged in combat?"

"Zanzibar is a newly-independent African country [as published] with 98 percent of its inhabitants Muslims, and is known as the gateway to Africa. Yet when the people are informed of the revolution and the aims of the revolution's leader, they are distressed as to why no representative from the imam was sent there sooner. I saw with my own eyes how Christian missionaries take advantage of the ignorance and poverty of Africa's Muslims and build churches and baths for them, helping them outwardly so that they can make them Christians. Apart from America, there are other, outwardly Muslim countries which have hatched plots against the Islamic Revolution of Iran and, in their propaganda, presented the Islamic Republic of Iran Government as reactionary."

The Iranian ambassador to Kuwait was asked: "Two weeks ago, following the attack by American aircraft on Iran, you stated in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM that these aircraft had used Omani territory for the aggression against Iran, but this was denied by the Omani authorities. What is your view of this?"

[Answer] Following the failure of that disgusting attack, our friends informed us from Oman that the aircraft had stopped there on the night before the incident and refueled. I disclosed the news on the basis of my knowledge of and faith in their work and intelligence netowrk, which had previously been reliable, but it was denied by the Omani authorities, who even asked the Kuwaiti Government to ban AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM. Now they have stated that the Americans used their territory without their knowledge and they are therefore abrogating their military pact with America.

There are three points of note here:

First, the present claim by the Omani Government is what I stated previously when I said that those ruling Oman do not know what is happening in their country, and that all their military power is in British and American hands. Second, now that they have announced that they are abrogating their military pact with America, why did they do nothing about this sooner? Third, why are the Egyptian forces which succeeded the shah's forces still using the American bases in that country and continuing to engage in conspiracy against the people of the region?

This announcement of abogation is assuredly for phase two of America's military aggression, whereby Oman wishes to claim that it is "preventing the use of Omani territory against you [against Iran]."

Iran's ambassador was asked what world and political reaction had been to the foreign minister of Iran's tour of the Arab countries.

In reply he said: "Knowing personally how essential this tour was, I had some time previously proposed that it should take place, but it was not undertaken by previous foreign ministers, and I gave many warnings of the danger of delay. Thus in my view the tour was a positive step, and we should not worry ourselves if certain persons wish to quibble or exaggerate negative aspects of the tour, since I believe that it is our presence in the region that is of importance and vital to us, and, though it is difficult to succeed in everything as one would wish, attempts still must be made."

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

Deportees Appeal to Islamic Conference

JN181112 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 May 80

[Text of appeal by Iraqi deportees in Iran to Islamic foreign ministers' conference in Islamabad--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. (They are) those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right, (for no cause) except that they say: "Our lord is God". [Koranic verse]

Foreign ministers of Islamic countries who are participating in the Islamic conference in Islamabad: May God's peace and blessings be upon you. We address you on behalf of 34,000 Muslim Iraqis who have been deported to the Islamic Republic of Iran. We believe that the great tragedy of deporting 34,000 innocents from their cities, homes and families would not have been worthy of your attention had it not been that those 34,000 deportees from Iraq are innocent. The majority are of Iraqi origin and their fathers and forefathers had settled in Iraq. You will lose nothing if the conference sends representatives to inspect our camps in the Islamic Republic of Iran and to become acquainted, firsthand and with the help of documents and proof, with the fact that we are of Iraqi nationality. The Ba'th Party has deported us from Iraq in an inhumane manner. Members of one family have been deported to different places, that is they have deported the mother and father from their homes and the children from their schools. Thus the members of one family have been deported at different times to the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Iraqi information media claims that they deported us in a very humane manner. We invite you to visit us so that you may see and listen to how they deported us and how they also confiscated our movable and immovable properties. They transported us in military transport vehicles to points 9 km away from the Iranian borders. Many women, children, old men and sick people died in the process. This tragedy reminds us of the Zionist aggression against the Muslim Palestinians and their explusion. We can say that the aggression the Ba'th Party has carried out against us is worse than the Zionists' aggression against the Palestinians.

Your excellencies the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries, we are being humiliated by another tragedy of equal importance to the one mentioned above. The Ba'th Party has placed more than 2,000 of our young men under observation. What pains us more is the silence observed by world, Islamic and Arab information agencies on the tragedy of 34,000 Muslim Arabs. They completely ignore this unparalleled tragedy. We can accept silence from known information agencies, but how can we explain the silence observed by information agencies in the Islamic and Arab world?

Your excellencies the foreign ministers: We appeal to you, in the name of Islam and according to prophet Muhammad's saying that those who do not care for the affairs of the Muslims are not Muslims, to consider the cause of 34,000 Muslim Iraqis as a serious cause. We call on you to give attention to the following:

1. The need to release 2,000 of our imprisoned young men.

2. The need to return 34,000 Iraqi deportees to their cities, homes and families.

3. The need to halt aggression and exert efforts to prevent more of our Iraqi brothers from being deported, a process which is continuing even now.

4. The need to protect our movable and immovable properties in Iraq and return them to us under the supervision of a committee which will enjoy the confidence of Islamic and international quarters.

5. We call on the Arab League to assume its humane, Islamic and Arab responsibilities concerning this tragedy.

6. We call on conference delegations to send their representatives to our camps to view our conditions.

Wishing the conference success, we shall be waiting for your reply.

[Signed] Iraqis deported from Iraq.

Resistance to Government Growing Daily

GF171455 Abadan National Iranian Oil Company Radio in Arabic 1820 GMT 14 May 80

[From "Today's Iraq Is an Erupting Volcano" program: "The Baghdad Media Have Failed To Cover the Nakedness of the Agent Regime"]

[Text] The revolutionary operations being carried out by the fighters in Iraq are increasing daily. Despite the media blackout on news of the Islamic revolution in Iraq, the Islamic revolution has been able to make its voice heard throughout the world. As a result of its daring operations that bewildered Saddam at-Takriti--and this bewilderement was clearly seen in his behavior and arrogance--it has been able to compel Saddam and his media to recognize it and its courage.

However, why did Saddam and his media--and even the Western media--report the Al-Mustansiriyah University operation carried out by the heroic fighter Samir Nur 'Ali? Why did the media of the ruling clique in Baghdad end their silence on 2 April 1980 and give a distorted picture of the Al-Mustanisriyah University operation, in which Samir Nur 'Ali launched a handgrenade attack against an important meeting of the governorates' security chiefs, some officials of the tyrannical ruling party and leaders of student party offices, attended by the criminal Tariq Hanna 'Aziz? International and regional news agencies reported the incident in the same bleak manner reported by Saddam at-Takriti's media.

The fact that the Al-Mustanisriyah University operation is the first operation publicaly admitted by the tyrannical clique requires more thought and vigilance. It is well-known that the Al-Mustanisriyah operation was not the largest operation by our fighters in steadfast Iraq. There was the Al-Judayidah operation in An-Najaf, in which the martyred Shaykh Salih Hadi killed or wounded scores of criminals; the operation by the martyred Al-Haj Abu Muntadhar in (Al-Rayya'), in Baghdad, in which he killed 7 criminals, including a police captain, and wounded 18 of the regime's agents; the operation carried out by Khalid Sayyid Nuri, 'Abd as-Salam Sayyid Nuri and Muhammad in Al-Ma'qal in Al-Basrah, in which they confronted the criminals from a rooftop from evening until morning, and in which the fighters Khalid, his brother 'Abd as-Salam, his mother, father and sister, and Muhammad were martyred.

The operation was carried out at a paper factory in Al-Basrah by the martyred Radi Hashim Tahir, who also blew up an agent's house in Bani-Mansur, in Al-Qurnah, [in Al-Basrah]. These and other operations could have claimed more casualties than the Al-Mustansiriyah operation. However, the regime's media refrained from reporting these daring operations at the time and only admitted the operation at the Al-Mustansiryah University in Baghdad.

The political commentator can only list a number of possibilities to explain the behavior of the Ba'thist media toward the Al-Mustansiriyah incident:

1. The announcement of the Al-Mustansiriyah operation, despite its distortion by the media, could have been intended to cover up the terrible massacre perpetrated by the tyrannical regime of more than 90 civilian and military heroes and Da'iyah [presumably a member of the Ad-Da'wah Party] in our beloved Iraq, including teachers, doctors, engineers, officers, soldiers and others. Their bodies were handed over to their families 20-25 March. This massacre greatly angered the people in suffering Iraq.

2. The tribal authorities may have publicized the incident to cover up the bloody and terrible actions they intended to carry out to liquidate the steadfast faithful in our beloved Iraq. There is more than one indication to this expected criminal action. Perhaps the showing of a film on television about the alleged links between the Iraqi Islamic movement on the one hand and Iran and the United States on the other is clear evidence of the regime's intentions against the courageous fighters.

3. The mujahidin's heroic activities and operations may have compelled the authorities to reveal some of them since it was impossible to hide all of them. Saddam's clique sought to connect the incident with the Islamic Republic of Iran to belittle the Islamic movement in Iraq and divert attention toward an alleged external threat. Whatever the case, the emergence of the Ba'thist information media from their silence and their admission of the heroic Al-Mustansiriyah University operation is a significant turning point that serves the Islamic revolution led by the faithful masses in steadfast Iraq and the struggle of the revolutionary Islamic movement. The triumphant Islamic revolutionary movement has begun to assert itself in the Iraqi arena. However hard Saddam at-Takriti tries to connect the Al-Mustansiriyah University operation with an external power and with the Islamic Republic of Iran in particular, his attempt is stillborn and will not be accepted by any sincere Iraqi of whatever political affiliation. The operations carried out by our brave fighters will constantly press on Saddam's rotten head until it falls to the people and to the Muslim Iraqi people alone. Struggle until victory or martyrdom!

Relations With Gulf States

GF181400 Abadan National Iranian Oil Company Radio in Arabic 1820 GMT 17 May 80

[From "Today's Iraq Is an Erupting Volcano" program: "Damned by Your Own Words"]

[Text] In issue No. 3636 of 8 May 1980, the lying and perfidious newspaper published on behalf of the shahist regime in Baghdad, ATH-THAWRAH, carried an article entitled "Toward a Unified Information Stand by the Gulf Countries." The article says: The information ministers of the Gulf countries arrived in Baghdad on 7 May 1980, to attend an extraordinary conference that begins today. The demagogic newspaper ATH-THAWRAH adds: This conference, which is being held under extremely grave and difficult circumstances, acquires great importance in view of its significant role in promoting coordination among the Gulf countries in the information field. The Gulf countries will then be able to adopt a unified stand in the information field that will contribute toward exposing suspect imperialist attempts.

Typically, in order to preoccupy the people with an illusory external threat and divert attention from what is happening inside the prisons and internment camps and from the collective execution of the struggling Du'at [presumably members of the Ad-Da'wah Party] of our Muslim Iraqi people, ATH-THAWRAH writes about the so-called Persian ambition in order to form a united front in these countries in the face of the Islamic regime of Iran.

The agent shahist regime is trying hard to mobilize the Muslim Arabs of Kuwait, Bahrain, the UAE, Qatar and other Gulf countries and plant the fear of an illusory threat, a threat which the Iraqi regime claims is the Persian conquest. Why does this regime brag and shed crocodile tears over Arab nationalism and call for such conferences when all its schemes and its suspect role of achieving U.S. imperialist aims in the region have been exposed to Arab and world public opinion? Does Saddam the shahist believe his constant claims that he is preserving the Gulf countries' unity, sovereignty and independence? Does he believe that he can win over the peoples of these countries?

The Muslim people of Kuwait will not forget the border dispute created by the agent regime in Baghdad in an attempt to set up a new external front that the regime can use as a pretext to justify its defeatist stands on the issue of occupied Palestine.

As for the zealous Bahraini people, we believe they still remember that the Iraqi regime used to supply arms to some communists to kill innocent people and blow up places under the guise of liberating Bahrain. These communists used to call themselves the Popular Front for the Liberation of Bahrain. Nor do they forget the abusive and vituperative conferences against the Bahraini Government, conferences sponsored by the shahist regime and organized by the so-called National Union of Bahraini Students. At all these student conferences, the Bahraini Government used to be described as reactionary and a puppet in front of the very eyes of the agent regime in Baghdad and with its full support.

The Iraqi regime's press, and especially ATH-THAWRRAH has constantly described the UAE and other Gulf countries as reactionary agents.

After all this, in commenting on the extraordinary conference of Gulf information ministers, ATH-THAWRAH attacks the Islamic Republic of Iran. The rotten shahist At-Takriti regime has become accusomed to the policy of opening new fronts in order to justify its defeatism and its cooperation with international Zionism. Anyone reviewing the events of the past 12 years would definitely find a consistent and irrefutable fact, namely that the shahist regime is always creating new fronts. Syria is not a far-fetched example. Remind those who fear threats of the old testament. [Koranic verse in which word "Syria" is substituted for name of an ancient people]

LEBANESE SHI'ITE LEADER, DELEGATION PAY VISIT

LD180540 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, deputy chairman of the Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council of Lebanon, yesterday afternoon met Ayatollah Musavi Ardabili, a member of the Revolution Council and prosecutor general of the country. According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, at this meeting problems regarding Muslims in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon were discussed. Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, deputy chairman of the Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council of Lebanon, has headed a delegation to Tehran.

Interview on Visit

JN182116 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] His Eminence Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, deputy chairman of the Supreme Islamic Shi'ite Council of Lebanon, who is currently visiting Iran at the head of an Amal movement delegation, said in an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY about this visit and its aims: In fact, we always desired to visit Iran because Iran, particularly after the Islamic revolution, has become a sanctuary for us and for all Muslims. We wanted to visit Iran several months ago, but the painful situation of Lebanon, particularly in the south, did not allow us to do so.

Shaykh Shamseddin went on to say: President Dr Bani-Sadr invited us to visit Iran after the abortive U.S. aggression against Iran to take part in a conference of the liberated movements to be held in Tehran. This invitation was an opportunity to realize our desire to visit Iran. Therefore, we have come to meet with our brothers in Iran.

In reply to a question by the PARS correspondent on what is taking place in Lebanon, His Eminence Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin said: What has happened and is still happening in Lebanon is sedition with all its dimensions. This sedition harmed all and no one but the enemies of Lebanon, the Arabs and Islam benefited from it. Those enemies are Zionism in Palestine and in the world as well as the colonialist forces, whether they are U.S. or Soviet.

Regarding Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh's talks with the leaders of the Amal movement in Beirut, Shaykah Shamseddin said: The talks dealt with the situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the abortive U.S. aggression against Iran and the Arab situation, particularly the issue of Palestine and the crisis of Lebanon.

KHOMEYNI NAMES APPOINTMENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

LD181044 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0935 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The following order addressed to Hojjat ol-Eslam Abdollah Nori has been issued by the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Abdollah Nori: Your Excellency is being appointed as my representative at the appointment board, for the selection of three members of the Supreme Council of Justice, and to observe the selection according to the regulations. God willing, success be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomenyi, 18 May 1980.

KHOMEYNI COMPARES IRANIAN REVOLUTION, AFGHAN 'COUP D'ETAT'

LD181738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The members of the Command Council of the Corps of Revolution Guards were received this evening by the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni. During the meeting one of the members of the Command Council reported to the imam about our country's developments. Later Imam Khomeyni made the following remarks before the members of the council:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. One must act with decisiveness. No one should express defeatism. Anyone expressing defeatism does not know Iran's situation. Our revolution is different from a coup d'etat. Iran is not similar to Afghanistan. The Iranian people must know that the notion of a coup d'etat cannot possibly enter the mind of even a single person, for the moment this notion enters a person's imagination, he will be the first one to be destroyed. Is our nation asleep? A coup d'etat requires certain preconditions, one of which is for the nation to be asleep. Another thing is that there must be any army which is a tool; not the army of Iran, which overwhelmingly supports the nation and is in harmony with it. One cannot stage a coup with two opposition groups. [as heard] This is one of the rumors spread by the enemy and there are also a bunch of simpleminded people around who have been deceived.

Our nation has exacted punishment on all the traitors of the former regime, or has thrown them out. If anyone contemplates such a thing our nation will smash them with tooth and nail. Thanks to the grace of God, the army, the corps of Islamic Revolution to rise against them. There is a population of 35 million people. Do not listen to the stupid remarks made by certain people behind closed doors. I assure you that this nation is invulnerable.

One day the Soviet ambassador came to me and said: Afghanistan has asked for our help and we want to enter Afghanistan. I said: Of course, you can seize Afghanistan, but you should know that you will not be able to persevere. Unless the nations wants something, nothing can be done. They now realize this but they have been trapped. The situation will develop in the way I have stated. The Afghan Government is a usurper and is in favor of foreigners and against the people. But in Iran, the government, the nation, the army and the corps are all part and parcel of the same thing. The moment America comes and lands troops the people will wipe them out on the spot. It should know that the issue of Iran is not the same as Afghanistan. In Iran all the people are voicing the same thing.

At any rate, I thank the army, the corps and the gendarmerie, and I hope you will all cooperate with one another and realize that if you are martyred you will have achieved success and that if you triumph over the enemy you will have been successful. This is the secret of the victory of the dawn of Islam. Your enemies cannot think in these terms, for they love their lives and they seek riches and booty. The armies of Rome and Iran were defeated by a group of believers with their broken weapons, with their meager equipment and with their small numbers. God willing, you will be successful and protected.

KHOMEYNI MOVES INTO NEW RESIDENCE, ADDRESSES TOWNSPEOPLE

LD182114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 18 May 80

[Speech by Imam Khomeyni before the inhabitants of Jamaran during a welcoming ceremony for the imam at his new residence on 18 May--recorded]

[Text] I am very glad to be with my brothers and sisters here. I thank the inhabitants of Jamaran [presumably a village within Shamiran, a suburb of Tehran] for their great efforts, while I have done them no service. I hope that God will protect them against all evil, especially the arch-Satan. Brothers and sisters, we are in a situation which we should face up to with [word indistinct]. We are faced with a superpower in the West and one in the East, both of which want to devour us.

God Almighty willing, with the efforts of the brothers and sisters (?throughout) Iran, we are facing up to them with the utmost decisiveness and we will allow no power to confront us and to covet things held sacred by us. Do not fear these great powers in the least; you are under God's protection and their powers are (?nothing) compared to the power of the Almighty God.

If it is said that the U.S. Government is to take military action and drag this land through blood, do not believe it. If the United States were to come, it would be (?punished). We do not fear economic and military blockades or military intervention by the superpowers. Even if they were to land, we would resist them strongly; the other Muslim nations are also against them. We should advance with strength in order to implement the decrees of Islam in our country, in the region and even in the world.

I hope that God will (?aid) us in our goal. The important point is that we are doing our duty. Our duty is to stand and fight against oppression. If we are able to force them to retreat, so much the better. If we are not able to, then we would at least have done our duty. It is not as if we fear defeat. First, we will not be defeated; God is with us. Second, if we were to suffer an apparent defeat, we would not suffer a spiritual defeat. Spritual victory is Islam's, the Muslims', ours.

Be strong and rise against all difficulties and preserve your unity and observance of God. I ask the Almighty God for health for all of you and hope that you will be victorious and healthy and overcome all difficulties. May God's mercy and peace be upon you. Shouts of God is Great. [end recording]

BBC REPORTS BANI-SADR, KHOMEYNI DISPUTE OVER ATTITUDE TOWARD KURDS

TA170638 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 17 May 80

[From "Correspondents Report"]

[Text] Once again a difference of opinion appears to have arisen in Iran between President Bani-Sadr and Ayatollah Khomeyni. This time over the government's attitude to the Kurdish rebellion.

During the week the president had made tentative moves towards negotiation with the Kurds. Now Ayatollah Khomeyni has told the army that Kurdish rebels must be purged, they could not be given another chance. A second religious leader took an even tougher line. Alex Brodie reports from Tehran:

[Begin Brodie recording] Ayatollah Khomeyni's statement came after a meeting with the head of the army in Sanandaj, the center of some of the worst fighting in this Kurdestan war. The ayatollah issued a warning to the army, the Revolutionary Guard, the ruling Revolutionary Council and the commander-in-chief of the armed forces--that is, the president. It was that the agressors must be purged. We must not give them another chance, he said. This contrasts with what many saw as a conciliatory attitude by President Bani-Sadr, when 2 days ago, he said he accepted the Kurdish six-point plan for autonomy, albeit with unspecified amendments.

But an even harder line came from the religious leader of Tehran, (Hojatollah Salkhamani), at Friday's prayers. To him the issue was black and white, good versus evil, or--in his words--Islam against blaspheny. He described the acknowledged religious leader of the Kurds, Shaykh Ezzedin Housseini as that deserted and unfortunate shaykh who worked for SAVAK for 20 years. SAVAK is the shah's hated secret police. That is, perhaps, the strongest accusation his enemies have ever made against the shaykh.

(Hojatollah Salkhamani) said: We will never negotiate with him or those around him, and that effectively means the entire Kurdish leadership. At this moment, it looks as if Kurdish skepticism about the chances of the negotiated settlement seems justified. [end recording]

CENTRAL BANK SEVERS LINK BETWEEN RIAL, DOLLAR

LD181032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0943 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The governor of the Central Bank of Iran, 'Ali Reza Nobari, announced during a press conference carried by the radio and television the breaking of the link between the Iranian rial and the dollar. On the basis of a decision reached by the Central Bank, beginning on 22 May 1980 the rate of the Iranian rial will be determined by fluctuations of the special drawing rights unit, which is an international unit consisting of 16 major currencies. A statement issued by the Central Bank in this regard says that issues such as the increase in import inflation and the artivicial rate of other currencies vis-a-vis the rial, which stemmed from the direct link between the dollar and the rial, as well as businessmen's tendencies to deal in dollars necessitated the severing of the link between the Iranian rial and the dollar, for reasons stemming from the fixed rate of the dollar.

REVOLUTION COUNCIL APPROVES NEW BUDGET

LD180534 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The country's budget, totaling 2.7 trillion rials has been approved by the Revolution Council. Eng. 'Ezzatollah Sahabi, a member of the Revolution Council and the supervisor of the plan and budget organization, said at the end of last night's session of the Revolution Council: The country's budget includes 46 notes and a number of regulations regarding expenditure, some of which have recently been added. Discussion and exchange of views on these was postponed to the next session.